COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Thursday, January 26, 2023

The Council met at 9:44 a.m.

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer, and Councillor Wyatt.

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Madam Speaker: It is my pleasure to welcome our pages for today's meeting. Joining us is Khan Dang who attends St. John's High School and resides in the Mynarski Ward. And Nicole Sylvester who attends St. Mary's Academy and resides in the River Heights-Fort Garry Ward. Welcome and thank you for serving Council today. I would like to recognize some guests with us in the gallery today. The gallery is full. Wonderful to see that. Joining us are Joanne Kelly, journalism instructor of Red River College Polytech with her class of first year creative communications students who are observing today's Council meeting. It's been awhile since you've been able to join us and it's so great to see you here once again today. Welcome. I would like to now recognize Mayor Gillingham to introduce Winnipeg's Poet Laureate 2023 who is joining us to recite a poem this morning.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It gives me great pleasure today to rise and to welcome Chim Undi. Winnipeg's third Poet Laureate holding a position for 2023/2024. Her writing is grounded in story telling and spoken word traditions. She has been writing and performing since her teenage days at Fort Richmond Collegiate. Poetry has taken her across Canada and overseas and her work has been published in Prairie Fire, CV 2 Magazine, Border Crossings, the Walrus and more. As Poet Laureate, Chim hopes to connect with young people throughout the city and help them discover the same love of writing and performing that she found from her mentors. A prolific writer and activist, she co-founded the Voices Inc., Youth Poetry Slam, she has been one of CBC's Manitoba's Future 40, and in 2022, she won the John Hirsch Award at the Manitoba Book Awards. Her writing has tremendous appeal across the artistic disciplines and has been featured as part of exhibitions at the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the University of Winnipeg's gallery, 1C03. She is the author of a chat book, The Habitual Be, included in New-Generation African Poets, a chat book set…box set published by the University of Nebraska Press. And she will debut a full-length collection of poems in 2024. In her spare time, Chim practices law with the Winnipeg firm Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman where she practices professional regulation, labour, employment and intellectual property law. And I am delighted, Chim, on behalf of all Council, to welcome you today and invite you to share your poem with us. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, mayor…Mayor Gillingham. Welcome.

Chimwemwe Undi: Good morning, Madam Speaker, Mayor Gillingham, councillors, guests. It is an honour and a pleasure to be here as Winnipeg's Poet Laureate. I've been a proud Winnipegger since my family permanently immigrated to the south end of the city in 2007. I was educated in Winnipeg; junior high, high school and university. Raised and supported by Winnipeg's incredible arts community and now proudly serve Winnipeg as both in this role and as a lawyer at Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman. This short poem is a loving reflection on the city where we live, learn and grow together. At the crux of two rivers that hold more than they wash away, an imperfect city stands. Restless in the heat of its own light, aglow in grin, gleaming from one bundled up neighbour to another waving a glove-clad good morning. Aglow in bright eyes as learners file into classrooms to take in new wisdom and turn out tomorrow aglow from the sun glinting on the Golden Boy glancing down at a city that spends each day learning and loving and overcoming, looking fearlessly into its own flaws and naming them lessons in forgiveness, in growth, in relentless hope. A tale of two rivers, of one city whose story is still being written. Crafted by unsure hands, building, breaking bread, holding on to each other, taking up pencil and paintbrush and laser pointer, coming together determined to tell our own tale. To say something beautiful about ourselves and to make it true. Thank you so much for having me.

Madam Speaker: Thank you for joining us, Chim, and for that very moving piece to start our day. We'll no move into morning announcements. Mr. Mayor, you have the floor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. And I want to echo gratitude to Chim for a very beautiful and inspiring piece of poetry. So, thank you so much. I want to start by thanking all of City Council colleagues today for their participation in the strategic planning and priorities retreat that was held earlier this month. I genuinely appreciate the opportunity to work with everybody, to get together to talk about our shared priorities. And it was very encouraging that we were able to end that weekend together with a news release signed by all 16 of us. I think…I don't know that on my eight years of Council prior to this we had a moment like that. So, that was really…credit to everybody here. So, thank you so much. And I'm looking forward to continuing the process over the weeks ahead. Consistent with that spirit of cooperation, last week I shared with all councillors copies of two letters that I recently sent to the Provincial Government. The first was fulfilling a campaign commitment that I made to ask the Province to consider changes to the Winnipeg Charter that would allow City Council to determine its own committee structure including whether an Executive Policy Committee structure is needed. The second letter asked the Province to finalize funding arrangements for servicing of CentrePort south so that we can tender that project and begin the construction on that work this summer. Yesterday was a very exciting announcement here at city hall to confirm more than $7 million in funding support from the Federal Government related to the 2 Billion Trees Program that the Federal Government has established that will help renew Winnipeg's urban forest. We also announced the launch of the Home Grown Funding Program which would provide assistance to community groups who design and coordinate tree planting projects across Winnipeg in 2023. And I would encourage all of my councillor colleagues to share the information with groups in their area. That information is available on the City's website at this time. I want to thank the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources, member of parliament, Terry Duguid, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment and Climate Change for this federal investment. I also want to recognize Councillor Orlikow who emceed our announcement yesterday and has…all of us know has been very consistent…a very consistent advocate and leader for investment in Winnipeg's urban forest. So, thank you so much to Councillor Orlikow as well. The Millennium Library reopened earlier this week. And I had the opportunity to tour the library Monday when it opened and to see the new preliminary security measures that have been put in place and had an opportunity, also, to speak to some of the staff working there. As I have said repeatedly since this tragic incident occurred in the library in December, we need to ensure that City staff and patrons to the library feel safe above all else. I hope that some of these measures are only temporary and look forward to the results of the safety audit that will be…that is being conducted right now and hopefully will be ready for Council to review in the coming weeks. The Brady Road Landfill also reopened earlier this month after being temporarily closed due to an on-site protest. And I want to thank our City staff in Water and Waste and the Indigenous Relations Division of the City of Winnipeg who have done great work to share information with protestors and specifically to work with families of the victims. And that's what's allowed us to come to the agreement to reopen Brady Road. The City and the Winnipeg Police Service are continuing to be involved in the landfill search feasibility group that's being led by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. And I want to thank Grand Chief Cathy Merrick for her leadership. One of Winnipeg's biggest cheerleaders and best-known citizens will have a special birthday this weekend as Dancing Gabe Langlois will turn 60 years old. And I want to take, Madam Speaker, this opportunity on behalf of all of us on Council to wish Gabe a very happy 60th birthday. On Sunday, the Manitoba Moose will have a celebration planned during their game and I look forward to being there and representing the City of Winnipeg. And may all of us heed Gabe's advice to just keep dancing. Finally, I want to wish a happy new year to all those who are following the lunar calendar. With many councillor colleagues, I had the opportunity to celebrate two Chinese New Years celebrations this last weekend. They were fantastic events. And as I noted in my comments during the event on Sunday evening, 2023 is the year…for most following the lunar new year calendar, the year of the water rabbit. For others, it is the year of the cat. Thank you very much. Which…but the water rabbit this year symbolizes longevity, peace and prosperity. And 2023, this is good news, is also predicted to be a year of hope. And I think all of us would agree that our city and all of us could use a good dose of hope this year. So, thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Next speaker, Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for this opportunity. Sunday, January 29th is the kickoff to Black History Month 2023 and will be the forty-second anniversary for the local organizing group here in our city. Of course, over the last two years, the global pandemic has had an impact on the ability to host in-person events throughout the month of February, known as Black History Month. But we are now back to in-person events, a mix of in-person events and virtual events. And February 2023 will be full of activities and events for everyone to attend. Black History Month was celebrated to focus the attention on contributions of African and Caribbean communities throughout North America. Black History Month seeks to honour all black people from all periods of history; from the enslaved people first brought over to North America from Africa in the early 17th century, to black populations living in North America today. For 2023, one of Canada's themes for Black History Month is 'Out of the Darkness, into the Light', celebrating history today and every day. It was Dr. Reverend Martin Luther King who stated, "Darkness cannot drive out dark…darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." What a fitting sentiment considering the divisiveness that has been experienced over these last two years of COVID, which included the murder of George Floyd and many other lives lost to racial animus, including those in Buffalo, New York, a grocery store in 2022 just because of the colour of their skin. We are not immune here in Canada. And education is a great equalizer that provides room for empathy and humanity to grow. I encourage all of my council colleagues to consider participating in any of these scheduled…in-person and virtual

events throughout the month of February organized by Rhonda Thompson and Nadia Thompson, and the volunteer group organizing the Black History Month here in Manitoba. Black History Month is not only a month for the black community, it is an entire month of education and sharing to increase equity and inclusion for everyone. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Next for your morning announcement, Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I rise to stand in support of Winnipeg's Iranian community and their continued efforts to be the voice of innocent Iranians who are fighting for basic human rights and freedoms of assembly and expression. In January of 2020, the Iranian community suffered a loss of 176 lives, nine who were residents of Winnipeg with the downing of flight 752. In September of last year in Iran, 22-year-old Mahsa Amini was detained by the morality police for violating the country's strict dress codes for wearing her headscarf too loosely. The morality police. When I hear…when I heard that term, I admit it took me a long time to even grasp the concept of morality police and made me wonder what year we are really in. Mahsa Amini later died in custody three days. Her death sparked mass protests across the country sparking a heavy-handed regime response by the governing Islamic revolutionary guard. Today, four months later, hundreds of thousands are still taking to the streets in Iran to protest one of the most murderous, violent, evil regimes in the world. Winnipeg's Iranian community continues to be traumatized again every day in seeking accountability for the downing of flight 752 and in reading, hearing, watching and speaking with family back home about the revolution that is currently underway. As Winnipeggers, we can show our support for these brave women and men in Iran by standing with Winnipeg's Iranian community at their rallies, at their events and to support and be the voices for those who can't. Iran is in turmoil like many countries around the world. I ask that as we reflect on our freedoms and human rights here in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, we be generous with our time and give support to so many who are fighting for the same; women, life, freedom.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Lukes. Our final speaker for morning announcements, Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is fitting that I go after Councillor Lukes on this item. So, Winnipeg Safe Cities looks at violence and sexual violence for women and girls and those who are perceived to be women in our public spaces. And I would like to take an opportunity to share the current work of the United Nations Winnipeg Safe Cities Initiative with our mayor, my fellow Council members and members of the public. Recognizing that the City of Winnipeg have a direct impact on women's safety in public safes, we have developed an internal City of Winnipeg subcommittee with representations from multiple departments, including Community Services, Property, Planning and Development, Communications and Indigenous Relations Division. In partnership with the Canadian Municipal Network of Crime Prevention, we have begun a multi-year strategic planning. The internal committee is meeting once per month and is tasked with developing a terms of reference in identifying key priorities. From there we will host large virtual community engagements with service providers with experience and expertise on women's safety. We will identify priority groups and coordinate a series of DYI engagements to directly hear from people using services that impact women's safety. This data will be used to inform, conceptualize and develop key pillars to focus the work on Winnipeg Safe Cities Initiative. We expect a plan to be released in the fall of 2023. And I want to thank our mayor, Mayor Gillingham, for his ongoing support of this important work. We know that making our city safer for women and girls, we make it safer for everyone. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

MINUTES

Councillor Browaty moves that the Minutes of the meeting held on December 15th, 2022, be taken as read and confirmed.

DELEGATIONS

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Moved by Councillor Browaty. All in favour? Contrary? That's carried. We will now move in to delegations. Our first delegation, Joanne Lewandowski, has advised that she is no longer able to attend. We have one other delegation registered.

Councillor Wyatt: Suspension of the rules to hear Demyan Hyworon and Dr. Roman Yereniuk, please.

Madam Speaker: And which item?

Councillor Wyatt: Item No. 2 on the notice of motion for Executive Policy Committee.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt moves suspension of the rules to hear two additional delegations. And it's on the item Request for Establishment for Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund. All in favour? Contrary? That's carried. And that'll be five minutes, no questions. Yes?

Councillor Eadie: Are we not allowed to replace the ten-minute presenter on that report?

Madam Speaker: No. No.

Councillor Eadie: Even though they can't attend? All right.

Madam Speaker: No, that is not what was presented to us just now. Thank you.

Councillor Wyatt: I move to allow for us to accommodate that request for ten-minute, five-minute.

Madam Speaker: I just want to confer with Clerk for a moment on something. Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. Are you moving that one of the delegations be taking the ten-minute slot?

Councillor Wyatt: Correct.

Madam Speaker: Okay, and who would that be? And then, the other would take the five-minute slot.

Councillor Wyatt: I will let them decide.

Madam Speaker: Thanks. Okay. You are moving suspension. Councillor Wyatt moves suspension to have one of the gentlemen take a 10-minute slot and the other will take a five-minute slot. No questions. All in favour? Questions for the 10-minute slot, yes, no questions on the five-minute. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Our next delegation is Mr. David Grant who is appearing before Council on the following item…items. He is in opposition to the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated January 17th, 2023. Item 5 – Statutory Officers Performance Evaluations, Item 10 – City of Winnipeg Rapid Housing Initiative Round 3 Federal Funding. He is in opposition to the following notice of motion items: Executive Policy Committee No. 1 – Councillor's Office Resources, No. 2 – Request for the Establishment for a Ukraine Humanitarian Fund. He is in opposition to Item 2 of the report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated January 10th, 2023 regarding Reduced Speed Neighbourhood Pilot Speed Limit Changes. He is in opposition to Item 1 of the report of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services dated January 11th, 2023 regarding Report on Annual Inspection of Converted Residential Dwellings with Shared Facilities. Our delegation is joining us via Zoom. Welcome, Mr. Grant, you have 10-minutes.

David Grant: Thank you and thank you to staff and Your Worship for continuing this period in your meeting. Thankfully, today it's not going to be your whole morning, hopefully. Starting off with Item 5, I believe it's EPC Item 5 – Performance Reviews of Senior Staff. There are troubling points made in this agenda item. I am glad it is here, but it is a eyebrow raising. Number one, this need has been great for many years. A board is responsible for the performance of its senior staff. In effect, that is all a board does. And you, Council are the board for city hall and all our municipal staff. Item 2: since you are talking about a topic in 2023 that was missing…noted missing in 2014 term, can anyone answer this question; how many thorough reviews of persons in these posts have been published in the last 20 years? Why was it deemed necessary to wait 6 more months in this action? No. 4: to what standard will this be done? Should an outline be approved by Council? Will performance be compared with every element of the job description? Will every excursion from the job description be explored? No. 5: who will compose the questions to be asked? Since the simplest tasks at city hall like listing all the boat ramps tend to be delegated to contractors, will an HR professional be hired for this review job? To do otherwise is to expect people working for one of these persons to review that person. That would be a conflict, obviously. No. 6: what sources of information will be used? Direct questioning only? No. 7: will there be an evaluation of the written reports prepared by and for the subject person since the last review? That quite often happens in the corporate world and really, we are in the corporate world here, should be. No. 8: in past years, persons holding senior jobs at city hall have failed to inform Council of important activity and have made important deals without consultation. This has been vexing to everyone including those on Council at the time. Will evidence be sought in future reviews regarding such activity by the current incumbents? Just some questions one of you might want to ponder for the next 6 months. Item 10, also on the EPC thing: Winnipeg has a growing homelessness problem. It will be getting worse as long as its root causes continue. In too many ways city policy are behind the problem. With your focus only on the RHI, Rapid Housing Initiative, you are ignoring the other ways you can help. Number one, one cause is the climbing cost of homes. As more people move in to Winnipeg than new homes are created, many will be left out as housing becomes unaffordable. The City should relax the hurdles that puts on the way…in the way of those creating new housing. If the City were to work with developers on a plan to bring onstream many more rental units, low-income folks would not be forced out of the street. End the war on developers, they are not your enemies. When a family moves to…and I have no vested interest in both the building industry

or developers' concession. Just an obvious thing. When a family moves to a newly built home, their old house becomes available for those with a bit less money. I live in an old house. My neighbours have mostly moved to apartments and condos as they got older. And we have wonderful new families in the neighbourhood in each one of those homes. If you want rapid housing, take ownership of derelict homes and make…taking ownership of derelict homes and making them liveable can house the homeless before any kind of new construction can. That is the only route in Winnipeg to rapid housing. Do it before somebody torches that empty house. No 2: when the City evaluates low-cost rental homes, it should consider that demanding expensive fixes could drive the landlord into closing the unit or the building. I once lived in $48 a month furnished unit in an old converted house. Every other resident of the place was okay with the stuff that the landlord could not fix. Those who could afford to moved out. Years later when I could afford to, I moved out. If that place and every place like it had been shut down, more than a dozen good people per building would have been on the street. Just because the place is too crappy for anyone here or me to want to call it their home now, it is far better than a shelter or a bus shack. Please change your policies and the way they are enforced to save viable homes. If at all possible, keep the rooming house open and just deal with things…fire issues or obvious things you can't ignore. But the crappiness of some element of that home, we should have a better tolerance for it if it means keeping that building as a residence. So, that is where a lot of these homeless people that we are worried about have come from places that they were renting once. Drug policy. Those who speak for the City seem to want life under the influence to be easier. Those living such lives tend not to fit conventional rental home living when they are living under the influence. If the City were to move toward obliging those suffering the torments of addiction to be treated, the numbers suffering might be reduced making life easier for those living rough and living under the influence tends to reduce the incentive each one of them might have to get clean. Leaving that topic, it is likely that most taxpayers resent seeing the tax dollars taken and spent on things they choose not to spend on. That is a natural reaction. Over 200 years ago, if you study history, Parliamentarians opined on the unjust way that money was taken in taxes and given away. That other politicians are spending tax dollars in similar ways does not make the injustice of this go away for you, our city politicians. With no limit on the foreign aid fund you are creating, no limit to how much City money goes into it, those who can no longer afford to pay their share of taxes will not be pleased. Please do as much as you can to curtail City spending in every way until the rainy day fund is healthier. Please vote against city taxes going to foreign aid. Ottawa is very generous and can print money to cover the billions they choose to send. This city cannot afford to go out of its lane as it seeks new ways to spend our money. If you decide to donate, please set an upper limit for the City contribution to this fund. Advocating donations instead of making tax money…tax dollar donations would support the cause in an affordable way. Certainly, we can use our good name, the City's good name, to encourage people to donate and we can set up the fund and administer it. Anyway, moving on; constituency offices. It is now…it is possible to run a constituency office now for much less than just a few decades ago if you're very careful. We just need to make maximum use of our electronic voice; voicemail and so on, and a minimum and part-time help. As the City runs out of money, giving each of you what I guess is about $260,000 a year for office stuff and to hand out to local groups, this is not going to be popular to people who see the City running out of money. It is not taking leadership, as they call it. There is no need to have fully staffed local offices. An MP who works in Ottawa has to have a local office, otherwise there is no where to meet with them and talk to staff. City each of you has an office at city hall. Regular town hall meetings in the community can be held in existing gathering places. In past years, good councillors that I've worked with have done just that. Staff turnover is not a problem with motivated people working a welcoming place. Throwing more money at the problem is no permanent fix for people leaving your offices. Another item, if 311 worked properly, the public would not feel the need to call the councillor when something goes wrong. Note that some of your assistants are now being paid 40% more than the folks who staff MLA offices. And I would question whether an MLA in Winnipeg needs an office, but if you are representing a far-flung riding as an MLA, maybe you do need an office in that town. Anyway, if you make life easier on your staff and hold local meetings at the library or at the Tim's, there is no need to increase your own funding in that way. Zoom is another low-cost format for the public input. Obviously, it works at city hall, works nicely in times of germs and all of the time. It is something that you could consider doing more of rather than just spending on a local office. There is a quote here from a long time ago, "Spending money just because you can is never prudent."

Madam Speaker: Mr. Grant, did you need more time or are you wrapping up?

David Grant: I have one more sentence. Just on the topic of rooming house inspection.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Schreyer moves extension of two-minutes. All in favour?

David Grant: Thank you. On the topic of rooming house inspections, there's a very detailed report. It tells a very good story of how diligent the City has been.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Grant. That concludes your time today.

David Grant: I wanted to draw the link between that and homelessness. Anyway, thank you. That was my sentence.

Madam Speaker: If you could wrap up, 10 seconds. Thank you. Thank you for your presentation today. Questions for Mr. Grant? Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mr. Grant has given us some of his…some insights. He talked in terms of his concern over the statutory officers performance evaluations. It's a new thing. It's not going to be perfected in one year. Would Mr. Grant give consider to the idea that we give evaluation, if you will, to the evaluation in a year from now? Would Mr. Grant consider presenting again a year from now should this motion pass and giving us his ideas of how well the evaluation is actually done, is actually happening?

David Grant: Sure. Thanks, Councillor Schreyer. The reason this is a particularly timely topic for me is that I've…I was active in a professional organization and their council, their governing council had amended for periodic review of the senior staff. And then we discovered that in the, whatever it was, 17-year tenure of that person, there had never been such a review. And there were operational problems that resulted. So, it just seems so natural that every senior exec of any large organization be subject to review periodically. And yes, if it is possible to be in on that. That's why I'm suggesting a professional HR company because they are in the business of helping tell us or whoever large companies in dealing with their staff reviews. And yes, that would be a great thing. And if it is on your agenda, expect a comment. Thanks, Jason.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, second question, Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mr. Grant talked about the…as…he said as the City runs out of money. And he says…he said throwing money at the problem isn't a solution. I completely agree. And the fact is, that we have been spending our reserves. We do have less money than before. We are raising taxes, reducing services and actually going further into debt and asking for more money from other levels of government. So, I'm certainly not going to say that his comments are irrelevant or exaggerated. But the thing is, we never talk the primary reason why our taxes are going up. Would Mr. Grant be interested in helping do some research and explaining to Winnipeggers and maybe this Council, maybe city hall, the primary reason our taxes are going up and we are reducing services?

David Grant: I didn't come prepared to talk on that topic because that wasn't on the agenda. But there have been anecdotal signs of spending not slowing down when the...as the money runs out. And in some cases, if you are starving on a desert island and the food's running out, maybe you have smaller meals. And in this case, there isn't much evidence at city hall of people standing up and saying, well, we have this glorious plan, we had a good idea here but since we are out of money or we're almost out of money, let's put it off for five years. Things that people have in their minds still get funded and still have been funded in the last year. So, just anecdotally, it doesn't seem that the people making the decisions are as concerned as some of us are that the well is running dry.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question, Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Well, I didn't mean today, I just mean Mr. Grant's not going away, he is here often enough and I expect to see him.

Councillor Eadie: Point of order, Madam Speaker. No preamble, right?

Madam Speaker: Let's get right into the question, Councillor Schreyer. Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Councillor Schreyer: Would Mr. Grant in six months from now be willing to present a report to help explain how it is that we are raising taxes, reducing services and spending our reserves and for the first time, explaining to Winnipeggers why it is that this is happening. Because I have never gotten that report from city hall either.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

David Grant: That's a good idea. Thank you for the suggestion.

Madam Speaker: Next question, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I am wondering if the delegation could explain if he understands the difference between an executive assistant for city councillor office versus a constituency assistant in the constituency of an MLA?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Grant, over to you.

David Grant: I have never held either position. I have worked with a number of assistants for…at the various levels for MLAs in their constituency office and at the Leg. I know they have staff at both. And no, I am aware of some of the problems that exist for councillor assistants, executive assistants. And as I say, one of the biggest problems is the work can be hugely frustrating dealing with people who are angry because they can't get through to the City is certainly something that can't be easy for a councillor's assistant. And if the excuse of 31…call 311, you know, because your street is flooded or the ice is still there on my street of my intersection, that really shouldn't involve a politician. And to overload the executive assistants with that kind of trivial operational stuff is really what they call, not in your lane. And it's really sad that that's the system we've got. And to that reason, it would be in the personal interest of every councillor to make sure that the 311 system is handling the routine stuff. And certainly, it's a concern, and…but I don't pretend that the two people are the same. And we know that MLAs have staff all over the place and they have huge funding. And we've decided that that is okay. But certainly, in the case of the city councillors, if enough…if there were…divert all the calls that shouldn't be going there and giving electronic help as much use as it can, like e-mail, then maybe it can be done with less than the whatever $160,000 a year. Thanks.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. I'm wondering if the delegation recalls the demand on councillors in the election to perform, get results and communicate in great depth about how to deal with the various serious unhealthy safe issues in our wards, especially those ones who have inner-city involved?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

David Grant: Interesting question. Again, that is something that if there is a pan-province health issue as there was three years ago, two and a half years ago, it is the job, the lane, as they say, of the public health authorities to do that. It is unfortunate that gaps were left and people weren't properly informed and that people were desperate and called their councillors for assistance. And the other problem is that some of the calls coming in were by irate people who didn't want their store or gathering place closed. So, there were those people who wanted to object and had nowhere else and were ignored by the senior levels. So, that's certainly an issue, but I would hope that we don't need to double up our staff in city councillor offices because other levels of government are ignoring the people and not doing their jobs.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question, Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker, pardon to my colleagues. But the final question I have is, does the delegation today understand that the actual results that…for service requests are not completed by 311 but are done by the various departments who are limited consistently with the amount of money they have to deal with service requests?

David Grant: Yes, I am fully aware that the problem…311 catches all the flack, but in most cases of them passing the message on to the operational side, they get in trouble when the operational doesn't clear the ice or doesn't do whatever. And it's just the…I used the term 311, but in effect, if the City operations were able to do their job and in a lot of cases they don't have the funding or there may be efficiencies available, but it's just…we use that euphemism. And certainly, if the combination of 311 and the people they send your call to were able to do their job, then there would be less reason to (inaudible).

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Grant. Thank you. That concludes question period under this delegation. Thank you for joining Council, Mr. Grant. Next, I would like to call forward Dr. Roman Yereniuk. He is here with us in the chamber. He'll be speaking for 10 minutes on the request for the establishment for Ukrainian Humanitarian Fund. Welcome.

Roman Yereniuk: Your Worship, Mr. Mayor, Madam Chair, distinguished councillors, it gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Manitoba Provincial Council, we have councils in every province, to greet you and congratulate you on considering a very important initiative of Councillors Wyatt and Eadie. I want to say that we are very, very pleased to hear that there is some movement, some ideas, some fresh ideas. We know that the Federal Government has contributed considerably in aiding and helping Ukraine and also the Ukrainian Canadians have also aided greatly the Ukrainian experience of the new arrivals of the…of the people from Ukraine to this province. We know that there's approximately 12 to 13,000 so far. And I think we've come…before this year is up, there will be approximately 15,000 new immigrants that will have settled in Winnipeg and Manitoba, but I believe it's about 90% in the city of Winnipeg. The proposal, we believe, is well worded. It is excellent in its content. It covers the issues. And it gives much concern…it involves much concerns for the Ukrainians and its people…Ukraine and its people, its institutions and its democratic government. I want to say that some of us who have been going to Ukraine over the past 30 years since Ukraine became independent in 1990, have seen a tremendous growth in the democratic principles. And this is kind of interesting in a sense that they are becoming more like Europe, more like Canada, United States and in so doing, they were in the process of creating the new Ukrainian citizen for their country. We also know that in this period of time, in the last 11 months, due

to the invasion by Russia in Ukraine, we have already featured approximately 11 months of tremendous destruction in the humanity, in the people that live in the cities of Ukraine. We also notice that there is a tremendous destruction that is taking place in many of the cities, much of the housing in areas like Irpin, in the city of Kherson et cetera have been destroyed. And basically, people are on the run. According to the United Nations, approximately 13,000 people both externally have vacated Ukraine as well as approximately 8 million that have moved to western Ukraine which is somewhat much more safer than living in their hometowns in eastern Ukraine or central Ukraine. Another issue that I wanted to bring about that right now, we know that USA and Canada and many European states have supported Ukraine to a large extent. And we hear this daily in our news and we find it in the various commentaries that we can see, et cetera, et cetera. But what is important is that our Federal Government and our Provincial Government has done much work and we are wanting to congratulate both the feds and the province. Is there a role for the City? We from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress believe that there is a role that can be played by the City in helping and assisting in the fundraising for Ukraine. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has an arm's length Canada/Ukraine foundation that helps projects in Ukraine, including the war effort, but at the same time, this group has raised approximately $40 million in Canada alone. We know that in other agencies like the Red Cross and some of the Mennonite Central Committee, et cetera have also raised approximately $50 million. So, there is about $100 million that has been raised in Canada in 11 months to assist. But at the same time, we would like to suggest that not only Winnipeg but also other cities in Canada do some sort of initiative to help and aid Ukraine. Now, there's many ways to aid Ukraine from military assistance and especially we have been hearing in the last few days about the tanks, et cetera. We know that there has been a tremendous destruction of the heritage and cultural institutions, schools, medical centers. These institutions that create a country, that basically give us the basis of a country, et cetera. And we are hoping that maybe if we could create a fund in city of Winnipeg that some of the funds could go to recreating these heritage and cultural and medical centers in Ukraine so that they could continue with these important institutions. We know that much of the housing has been destroyed. And as a result of that, people have been put on the run. Also, we know as far as the humanity is concerned, there are thousands of deaths. But we do need a very important component and that is to do the investigation into war crimes. Now, I know that there are many institutions with the United Nations, et cetera, that will be looking at this but there might be some assistance that we can offer and some know-how from our city of Winnipeg. Now, all of these things require funds, but at the same time, if we can do our little bit in city hall and do it with the people of Winnipeg, including the Ukrainian-Canadian population, I think this would go a long way to alleviate some of the problems. Now, we also want to bring to your attention some suggestions. Now, first of all, you notice that the document does not say anything about expenses in Manitoba for resettlement. I mentioned to you it is going to be approximately 15,000 people in the next month and a half. So, having arrived here, but what we would like to say is that maybe some of the funds that would be raised would stay local, help the ones that are here so they can get better established in the city of Winnipeg and maybe a portion, maybe 80%, 70% of them would become Canadian citizens. Number two, we noticed that there is no budget for this project. But at the same time, we want to say that this could be worked on, it could be assisted by many people. But I think it has to be revisited in some sort of amount to be put in. We from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress would be willing to work with your mayor and your committee structures to see whether we could put some sort of a budget together that would match the contributions from the citizenship of this city as well as the contributions from city hall. We would also like to suggest that there be a partnership in this project. And the partnership we would like to suggest would be our Ukrainian Canadian Congress Manitoba Provincial Council that sort of represents at various levels; national, provincial and civic, the interests of Ukrainians. Now, there is also the issue of the delivery of the funds to Ukraine. I want to inform you and we can provide further documentation on this, that our Ukrainian Canadian Congress and national headquarters has this Canada Ukraine foundation that right now is the major pipeline to get money into Ukraine to aid at the various levels of need for the Ukrainian people. And lastly, I would like to, again, reiterate that we believe strongly that some of the funds should stay in Manitoba and in the city of Winnipeg to assist with the resettlement of those immigrants that have decided...have been able to receive visas to come to Canada. And this…these…this need is quite active amongst these people and they are always in need of additional assistance. And we know that the feds and the province have done a pretty good job, but there is also the job that our UCC is doing here in the city and we could use additional funds to help this situation. I want to at the very end just remind the councillors that in the 1970s to the year 2000, this institution, Winnipeg city hall, had a very, very strong Winnipeg-Lviv sister city committee. I happened to be on it for the last 10 years. And so, I know the tremendous work that Harry Lazarenko as the chair of this committee did. This committee was in much…much, much involved in the arts, heritage work, museum sectors of society between…the sharing between two cities. We also have tremendous importance placed on various delegations and visits between the cities. And we want to also say that there were projects of assistance that were offered for Ukraine and Ukraine offered their assistance for our Ukrainian projects here in the city of Winnipeg. So, there's a success story. And in this success story, I want to say that we would like to see another success story. So, congratulations for raising this, Councillors Eadie and Councillor Wyatt. What is important is, let's move ahead and let's create something that would be unique. We would be the first city in Canada, but I believe that it would be of great assistance to Ukraine and to the Ukrainian community in the city here of Winnipeg. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. And opportunity for questions now if any. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, thank you for your presentation, doctor. It's been argued that, you know, the Ukraine challenges…you know, the humanitarian need is great, but there is other examples around the world that also do this that if we set to do this, we are setting a precedent. You know, in the minds of many in the geopolitics here is quite different. If Ukraine fails, it will drag us into a much larger conflict down the road that will probably involve us. But could you speak to that maybe and I guess highlight why this is a unique scenario and why Winnipeg, you know, should look at options to assist in terms of Ukraine.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. And any subsequent questions, please bring them through the Chair and the responses as well, through the Chair, please.

Roman Yereniuk: First of all, pertaining to the Ukrainian community and the multi-cultural sectors of our city here, I think we have 80 or 90 ethno-cultural communities in this city. Wherever there is a need I think we should help the homelands of those countries that are in need. We hear this on the television, we hear this on our computer programs, et cetera. So, there is a responsibility, I think, of being a Canadian, a believer in multi-culturalism that we should extend our aid not only here, keep it in Canada, but also to their homelands. And I think this is a priority for the Federal Government. And the Federal Government, of course. But who says we cannot assist the Federal Government in making those decisions? Right now, I think that in the Ukrainian community in Canada, we see this war that was started by Russia and was not called upon by Ukraine. Ukraine is not destroying very much of the territory of Russia, but Russia certainly has destroyed a lot of the territory of Ukraine. But there's also, I believe, a major fight of the…what we would call the democratic position that Ukrainian has taken. Ukraine wants to be like Europe, wants to be part of NATO, wants to be part of the North American sort of political system. So, this is a fight for democracy and every time we in the west and in Europe aid Ukraine, I think that is another sort of shot at a government like Putin's that tries to run a country in the dark, no democratic approaches to life and living. A very much top down society. And so, as a result, I would believe that this would be something that we should be concerned about. Is democracy going to survive? And if democracy is going to survive, maybe this model of Ukraine and what it is doing to try to defend its own rights will stand out as a major example.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, and you mentioned in your speech, Roman, about the Ukrainian Canadian Congress working with the Mayor's Office, members of EPC if we could…with regards to this initiative. That is something maybe you might want to just elaborate on in terms of options, such as, you mentioned budget, putting a cap on the funds, maybe options in terms of where the funds come from, funding. That is something that the UCC is eager or willing to do; working directly with the Mayor's Office and his staff?

Roman Yereniuk: Yes, we've gone on record that locally we want to work with the political institutions. And this is the key political institution for our city. And so, as a result, we want to, you know, do a part, a little bit to be able to be involved in this and to offer our services to meet and to talk and to discuss, et cetera. By the way, our Ukrainian Canadian Congress just went over $1 million of funds raised in Winnipeg and surrounding, you know, the municipalities surrounding Winnipeg for the Ukrainian cause. And much of that money, of course, has gone for the local resettlement of the immigrants that are coming here, but also, some of that money has gone to Ukraine to help with the war effort there.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question.

Councillor Wyatt: Final question. There's a motion to receive the…as…to receive the Ukrainian humanitarian fund notice of motion to be received as information which means it would end here the debate today if it were…this were passed. I will be moving a motion of referral to refer it to keep the discussion going, to have those opportunities for discussion. Would you prefer that we pass the motion to receive it as information which means that issue is dead here or would you encourage us to refer the matter so that we can have further discussion on this matter, options and bring something back that is workable for the City and the community?

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

Roman Yereniuk: Well, probably from my vantage point without consulting our board members, et cetera, maybe the second one would be better just to make sure that it would go to the next step. If it gets defeated, of course, it's all lost. But I think that the second option would be the best one to refer it further and to see whether maybe some of us could participate in that discussion with city hall councillors, maybe with the Mayor's Offices, et cetera, et cetera, so that we can have some results on this proposal, on this humanitarian proposal.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next, Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Ukrainian Spoken

Councillor Schreyer: I have a question for Mr. Yereniuk. Okay, we already understand that this might not pass today, but we might not be making the decision on it today. There is a possibility this could take some time and come back at the next Council meeting after deliberation through Executive Policy Committee and what have you. If that is the case, we have some greater time for deliberation. And I know Mr. Yereniuk said that this would be a first, Canada…Winnipeg would be…would be leading on this. Having said that, if this has a chance, you know, we are looking for, you know, other ideas. Are there any other specific cities in Canada that we should be looking to or that…that you could advise us on in terms of communicating with, in terms of what else might be being done in other cities in Canada?

Roman Yereniuk: Presently, we don't not know about any other cities being major projects of this type. But at the same time, this could be something that we could research and work on. I know that there is some talk in the city of Edmonton about reaching out and using services of the city hall to a greater extent. But this is something I think that still needs some time and some research.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Through you; thank you so much for your presentation. I'm going to just take a moment to thank the…certainly, the Ukraine Canadian Congress for all of the remarkable work that you have been doing. And I know Joanne Lewandowski has been doing as well. As you indicate, we are getting close to 15,000 Ukrainians that have come to settle in Manitoba, most of them settling in Winnipeg. And most of the work being done by your organization. And I have had many opportunities to speak with Joanne, with you and others at various events. And so, let me just assure you, no matter what happens today, the conversation will not end in any way. I guess the…a question that I would have and you did indicate that...two things I would say is that, first of all, are you aware that this is the 50th anniversary, 2023 is the 50th anniversary of the sister city relationship between Winnipeg and Lviv? That's my first question to you. And then, you mentioned the…if I could add this question, Madam Speaker, if you'll permit as it's all part of the same, there used to be a committee, sister city committee and would you be open to discussion to kind of re-establish, you know, that committee with my office so that we could…we could celebrate…find a way to mark the 50th anniversary?

Madam Speaker: Thank you.

Roman Yereniuk: Yes, the issue of the sister city committee, many of the Ukrainian Canadians were very, very happy but surprised in '72 when it actually happened. I think there was even a tele…tele-bridge that was established between the city of Winnipeg and the city of Lviv. And I think that that project went over very well at the very beginning and it continued for this 50 years. So, it's a good thing to remind you of the 50th anniversary. I myself served on that committee and I was on the delegation. The city of Lviv had a major anniversary and I had a chance to attend with Councillor Lazarenko at that time, this celebration with three other delegates from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. And we were wowed by the Ukrainians and, of course, we returned those invitations for them to come here. And I think over the past 50 years there has been four or five delegations from Ukraine that have come here, okay. And the second question was? Second part.

Mayor Gillingham: Just specifically whether you are open to discussion, you know, with my office, basically, on regardless of what happens with this motion today? That's the second part of the first question.

Roman Yereniuk: Over the last three years at our monthly meetings…

Madam Speaker: That concludes our question period. Councillor Eadie moves extension for two minutes. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried.

Roman Yereniuk: Over the past three years, we have raised this a number of times to get going again because Harry Lazarenko is not here anymore. The good lord called him. But at the same time, what is important is that we try to see whether we can recreate. There is a precedence, there's history on it and there's a file on it here at city hall. And I would suggest that maybe this committee could be struck again.

Mayor Gillingham: I'll leave it there, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Seeing no other questions, thank you for your presentation to Council.

Roman Yereniuk: Thank you.

Madan Speaker: Our next delegation is Dem…Demyan Hyworon on the same topic. Welcome. And there will be five minutes on the clock, no questions.

Demyan Hyworon: Great. Thank you, everyone. My name is Demyan Hyworon, I am on the board of directors of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress National and also, a citizen of Winnipeg. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is the voice of Canada's Ukrainian community. The congress brings together under one umbrella all the national, provincial and local Ukrainian organizations. Together with its member organization, the UCC has been leading, coordinating and representing the interests of one of Canada's largest ethnic communities; 1.4 million since 1940. On February 24th, 2022, Russia launched an all-out assault on Ukraine. January 25th, 2023, marked 336 days since Russia began its invasion. To date, Ukraine has repelled the Russian advances. Russia has significantly intensified terror, bombing Ukrainian cities and towns. Unable to defeat them on the battlefield, Russia has turned to missile strikes on energy and power infrastructure seeking to turn dark and cold into weapons. Purposely targeting civilian infrastructure is prohibited. A war crime and a crime against humanity. Since the start of the all-out assault, Russia has fired over 4,700 missiles. 97% of these Russian attacks are on civilian targets. These attacks will continue. Russia is committing genocide in Ukraine. Russian forces are committing crimes on a scale not seen in Europe since World War II. More than 1 million Ukraine citizens, including thousands of children, have been deported forcefully to Russia from areas under Russian occupation. Russia uses filtration and concentration camps. In places like Ukha, Russia has executed citizens. As Ukrainian forces liberate cities and towns, more and more atrocities are coming to light, including recently the torture and murder of civilians in Kherson. 5 million civilians have been forced to leave Ukraine, many of whom are living now in Winnipeg. Over 8 million are internally displaced. Until more is done to stop Russia's ongoing ravages in Ukraine, will increase the humanitarian crisis. Ukraine needs assistance to ensure heating and electricity supplies to cities and towns. Initiatives such as this one allow for funds to be multiplied to maximize the positive impact and at the same time, raising awareness of this real time tragedy. The Ukrainian Canadian community in Winnipeg is grateful for the support it has received from all levels of government. On behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, I would like to thank our Mayor, City Council and City of Winnipeg for the ways it is supporting Ukrainian refugees as well as the people still living in Ukraine under siege. It is an unprecedented time. You know, there's other groups, also, that, you know, there's been a discussion about setting precedent, but I think this one is unique in the sense that, if we take a look at the Federal Government response and the response western countries, never has there been such unified and large support. So, I think, you know, anything that all the component governments can do to assist in this fight and to support, you know, grassroot movement up to what the Federal Government is doing, I think, you know, it needs to be taken into account. This is…this is not…this is not something that we have to be concerned about that if we support suddenly it opens up the floodgates. The support is already there. Things are happening. We need to be on board so it's a unified response and we are all rowing together. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you for your presentation to Council. Moving on to our regular agenda now. We have the report of Executive Policy Committee dated January 17th, 2023 noting we have an amending Motion 1 that goes with Item 1. So, we will pull that item. Mr. Mayor, over to you.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DATED JANUARY 17, 2023

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I would introduce the report and move adoption of consent agenda Items, I guess 2, then, through 10...pardon me, through 11.

Madam Speaker: The Mayor has moved. Councillor Wyatt? 6 is Ethical Trade Policy. 8 – Sister Cities. Councillor Schreyer? 4 – French Language Services. Any other? With that, I will call the question on 2 and 3, 5, 7, 9 through 11. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Item 1.

Item 1 – Citizen Member Appointments – Committees, Boards and Commissions

Madam Speaker: Thank you. The Mayor will introduce Item 1, followed by…well, the amending motion is also moved by yourself.

Motion No. 1
Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS on January 17, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council that Tracey Proctor be appointed as a citizen member to the Winnipeg Committee for Safety;

AND WHEREAS on January 20, 2023, the Winnipeg Committee for Safety appointed Tracey Proctor as an interim coordinator for the Committee;

AND WHEREAS a member must not serve as both committee coordinator and committee member.

AND WHEREAS on January 23, 2023, the Lord Selkirk – West Kildonan Community Committee made recommendation to the Executive Policy Committee and Council that citizen members be appointed to the Seven Oaks House Museum Board;

AND WHEREAS the Winnipeg Police Board By-law No. 148/2012 stipulates that Council shall appoint a minimum of five and a maximum of seven members of the Board, including the Chair and Vice-Chair, as follows:

(a) the Mayor or his or her nominee, who may be a member of the public or a Councillor, who shall also serve as Chair of the Board;

(b) a minimum of one and a maximum of two Councillors; and

(c) a minimum of three and a maximum of five members of the public.;

AND WHEREAS on November 9, 2022, Council appointed Councillor Markus Chambers, Chair, and His Worship Mayor Gillingham to the Winnipeg Police Board;

AND WHEREAS the Public Service advised on January 24, 2023, that the 2023-2024 nominees have successfully completed the required security checks in order to be appointed to Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Item 1 of the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated January 17, 2023, be amended as follows:

- *In Recommendation 12 delete "Tracey Proctor" and replace with "Marissa Asugui".*
- *Add the following new recommendations:*

  "16. That the following citizens be appointed to the Seven Oaks House Museum Board for a 2-year term to expire December 31, 2024:

  Sandra Klowak
  Gillian Crawford
  Sarah Harvey
  Stephanie Nunes

  That the following citizen be appointed to the Seven Oaks House Museum Board for the balance of a 2-year terms to expire December 31, 2023:

  Shemar Barnes

  17. That the following citizens be appointed to the Winnipeg Police Board for a two-year term expiring on December 31, 2024:

  Kyle Mason
  Daphne Penrose
  Kevin Selch

  18. That Colleen Mayer be appointed as the Vice-chair of the Winnipeg Police Board."

- *Renumber the remaining Recommendation accordingly.*

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, just…I'll point to the amending motion here. There's a couple of matters. One is related to, I would say, for lack of a better term, perhaps, cleanup with Councillor Gilroy related to the Winnipeg Community for Safety appointments. Just need some clarity on that. And so, you'll…colleagues will see that. And then, the item…the other item is…you can see in the resolution, Seven Oaks House Museum Board. I think Councillor Eadie is looking to make those changes as well and I appreciate his support on this. And then, some changes

to the Winnipeg Police Board. Three new appointments; Kyle Mason, Daphne Penrose, Kevin Selch. And I want to thank outgoing board members for their service; Edna Nabess and Moe El Tassi and then also Brian Scharfstein for their work over the last several years, as well. And so, that is the amending motion, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Any other speakers on the item or the amending motion? Councillor Mayes, followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just very briefly, I'll be supporting the motion and the amending motion. I did serve briefly on the Police Board, a not particularly happy term of office. But the…I did want to just commend, as the Mayor has indicated, we have some outgoing members who I wanted to thank. In particular, the outgoing Vice Chair Brian Scharfstein, when he was first appointed by then Mayor Bowman, I was sort of saying, who is this guy, he's from the Chamber of Commerce? What does this guy know? When I sat on the Police Board, I actually thought Scharfstein asked a number of penetrating questions. Had…had a lot to contribute. So, just on a personal note, I wanted to thank Mr. Scharfstein for his contributions to that board. But I certainly think that that board needed to have some renewal. So, I certainly support overall the new appointments. The Mayor himself, commendably, he is on that board now, which I think was a very good move. So, support the motion and the amending motion, but I did want to make that one personal note.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I first want to acknowledge the appointees for the Seven Oaks House Museum, Madam Speaker, which we actually recommended at our community committee meeting. Essentially though, we have some new members and it's always exciting to me that we can find volunteers to participate. The Seven Oaks House Museum is immersed. Next year we are talking about the founding of the city in 18…what was it, '73, '74. Thank you. You'd think I would know my history, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, but I know quite a bit about the history of the Inksters and the Seven Oaks House Museum, as well as Point Douglas and Fort Douglas. And these were the beginnings of our city, Madam Speaker. And so, the Ross House Museum, the Ross family, that place across King Street where we will see affordable housing and various commercial art spaces and so on across from us was donated by that family, the Ross family. And that is why we have a street called Ross Avenue in this local area as well, Madam Speaker. So, this board will oversee the historical activities, presentations at Ross House Museum as well. And I'd especially like to thank the first appointee who actually serves as our chair, Sandra, is a most excellent and a…a volunteer. And we have seen really good progress in restoring and keeping our heritage. I also wanted to thank the Mayor. He's appointed some excellent appointees to the Winnipeg Police Board. And you know, I have been a stakeholder with the Winnipeg Police Board in the past. And I think that Kyle Mason who I know personally will do an excellent job. He's going to have a big learning curve, Madam Speaker, because working on the Winnipeg Police Board, there are some difficult nuances. It is hard to take quick action or see quick changes in the delivery of police services given how everything works. But we do have two excellent members of Council on it as well to help guide them. But I would also, like my colleague has, Mr. Scharfstein. I had the opportunity to serve with him when he was new and trying to figure out how things are working. And he became a very excellent, immersed in immense amount of time in ensuring that we had adequate safety in our city and I just wanted to thank him for his mission as well as the other two outgoing citizen members that were appointed by the former mayor. And that's all I have to say. Full support of both reports.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Next speaker, Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise in support of this motion here for citizen member appointments. I also want to take the opportunity to thank the outgoing members of the Winnipeg Police Board, the citizen appointments including Mow El Tassi, Edna Nabess and, of course, Brian Scharfstein, that was our vice chair. As Councillor Eadie has indicated, it is not easy work in terms of dealing with the pressures of policing in our…in our city. We are seeing this right across the country. And so, the decisions that we make are debated in our board meetings and, you know, the strategic direction given to the service based on what we're hearing as a board by our community. I also want to take the opportunity to thank Councillor Eadie for his time on the board. Of course, he came in during a time of transition last year and filled the role admirably based on his previous experience as well as a Winnipeg Police Board member. I also want to take this opportunity to thank those who have put their names forward to sit on the human rights council…Human Rights Committee of Council. You know, I have been provided the opportunity to provide leadership as Chair of the Human Rights Committee of Council, something that I will put all of my effort towards increasing equity and inclusion here in the city for all people that are coming to this city that we call home to make it more vibrant, but also a place or a space where people can feel at home and can contribute, you know, whether it's, you know, culturally, whether it's economically, whether it's, you know, spiritually. And as we get to know people who are coming here from other countries and making Winnipeg their home and seeing what their needs are, that we as a city can accommodate to make this city a much more welcoming environment and work of the Human Rights Committee of Council will certainly lend itself to that. So, I am excited to work with the new appointees on that board as well as my council colleague, Councillor Rollins who is agreed to sit on the board as well. So, thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Over to you, Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, I rise in support of these, of course. And I just wanted to raise…I just want to thank all outgoing members of all the different citizen committees that we appoint here at city hall. They all do a tremendous amount of work. And I know that we are very, very grateful for all of the work that they do. And I just want to acknowledge the members that are now leaving from all of the citizen boards, as well as the new members that are coming on. They do great work here on behalf of the City. And just would like to acknowledge all of them. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor to close.

Mayor Gillingham: Just briefly, Madam Speaker, I want to thank the…my colleagues for their comments. And do want to maybe just pick up with what Councillor Gilroy just mentioned. A lot of the individuals who are outgoing members of boards, including three that are outgoing members of the Police Board, were on boards during the last two to three years. Just a really unique, challenging time through the pandemic. I know some of the challenges the Police Board faced were unique with…and the police faced over the last few years were just unique. You know, kind of doing their work during a once in a century pandemic. And so, thank you to everyone who puts in hours…has put in hours and hours of work to serve the City in various capacities on boards and I want to thank these individuals who are letting their names stand to serve our citizens through…through these various boards. I also do want to express my gratitude to Colleen Mayer who is on the Police Board now and who said she's willing to serve as the vice chair for the board as per this motion. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. With that, we will vote on the amending Motion 1. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. And Item 1, as amended. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Mr. Clerk.

Item 4 – French Language Services

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor to introduce Item 4.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This item at Executive Policy Committee was referred to our Public Service to report back, but I will wait to hear from my colleagues.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer, I believe you stood this down

Councillor Schreyer: Yeah, thank you, Madam Speaker. Yeah, I think it's appropriate to say a few words on this since I seconded Councillor Allard's motion.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Schreyer: So, I will say a few words because I believe that it's coherent to say a few words since I supported the motion of Mr. Allard. Just to say that it's a good thing that we'll have…I have the impression that will approve this because it's been nearly 50 years since the birth of our new, big city hall in 1912. And I believe it was this month, the month of January in 1972 when we had the first Council of the new city of Winnipeg. But in this case, we always need to consider that we modernize and that we have services in French because things change. Not only that, we also need to consider the fact that we have obligations to our Winnipeg Charter, created by the Province of Manitoba. And it is our obligation to have coherence with our Charter. And that also includes French services. Not only that, we also need to say that we obligations to our provincial constitution. (inaudible) of Manitoba of 1872. It's important, it's our constitution. And us, it's our province, we have constitutional obligations for French services. That is a fact. And when we don't have coherence, when we don't know how to adhere, to have coherence…adherence to our constitutional obligations, it causes problems. It causes problems here in terms of our province. It's not good for our country because we have here obligations to our federal constitution and the confederation. And we have to do our part. Winnipeg and Manitoba are special in the west. The city of Winnipeg is a trilingual city in western Canada. Not only that, it's a trilingual city west of our national capital. That's a fact. So, we have pressures on us to do what we need to do at the level of our obligations of our Winnipeg Charter that is specific to the obligations of the French language. And also, of our constitution (inaudible) of 1970 and our confederation. But because of that, I have to say, that it's appropriate to ask…expect financial aid from other levels of governments; at the Provincial Government level. I believe that they have obligations to the City of Winnipeg to help with services and also, logically, because of our confederation, and our special part because we are (inaudible) trilingual province. So, it's logical, it's appropriate to expect financial aid from the federal level so that we can here, in Winnipeg, do what we need to maintain our French services because it's our obligation. And I am looking forward to seeing what we're going to do in the next yea to explore how we can modernize our services. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers on this item? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor to close.

Mayor Gillingham: Please call the question.

Madam Speaker: All in favour of Item 5…4? I…I just called the question. Okay. All right. Okay, motion to rescind. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Did you put your hand up, Councillor Allard? Yeah, you did earlier, I did not see you. Okay. Thank you. I will recognize you.

Councillor Allard: Thank you. I will use my voice next time.

Translation of French Spoken:

Councillor Allard: So, thank you to my colleagues for considering this motion today. I think that there are many reasons why we need to re-examine the French services by-law here in Winnipeg. And thank you to Winnipeg City Council to have approved the recommendation to renew the French services in the city of Winnipeg where possible. I would also like to mention that there are many incidents where the French services, whether it's legislated to be made in French in the Riel district, so the districts of St. Boniface, St. Vital and St. Norbert, frequently the Public Service does not have the capacity to offer…to make French services work. I think there are also opportunities to approach other governments to ask for resources to better deliver French services. We have big shortcomings in the provision of service, despite our obligations to do so by the Winnipeg Charter. Our province of Manitoba is a bilingual province. We are an entity of the Province. We have work to do. But what is good, is that there are opportunities to go seek financing from the Federal Government. The law on the French service has a work plan in regards to how to advance for the delivery of French service in Canada. One of the aspects of the work page is that the municipalities and the (inaudible) can benefit from federal financing in terms of offering better services in French. And in particular, I think that it's important if we keep emergency services; the police, ambulances, other emergency services, we don't want to be in a situation where emergency services can't deliver a service in French to our residents…to residents who are here in Winnipeg. I personally have met with a number of new Canadians who come to Winnipeg who have…who are encouraged to come to Winnipeg who frequently only speak French. So, they arrive here, they wait on a government French language service, and what they find is that there is often not service in French. So, we have situations where emergency workers; the police, firemen, ambulance, can't communicate frequently with new arrivals who come from other countries who have waited to have a government service in French, it isn't there. So, (inaudible) I fear that there will be a day when a situation where our emergency services cannot communicate with someone and then there will be negative repercussions from the interaction or the lack of interaction between employees of the City of Winnipeg and these people who, unfortunately, cannot speak in the two official languages, who speak French, who have the right to speak in French. So, thank you to the Mayor for proposing. This will give us time to have (inaudible) administrative speak with the community, speak between us at the Council level. And so, I think this was well received by the Francophone community of Manitoba. Thank you for your consideration.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Mr. Mayor, do you wish to close or I can call the question?

Mayor Gillingham: Call the question, please.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

Item 6 – Ethical Trade Policy

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor, your opportunity to introduce the item.

Mayor Gillingham: I will wait to hear from colleagues, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. This was stood down by Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: We have a long meeting today, Madam Speaker. I just stood it down to be able to vote on it separately. I don't want to speak to it at this point.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further…other speakers? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor, do you wish to close?

Mayor Gillingham: Just to be clear, Madam Speaker, in closing that the…a vote for would be to receive this information as per the EPC's recommendation.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. All in favour? Contrary? Councillor Wyatt and Schreyer in opposition. And that is noted. The item carries. Item 8, Mr. Clerk.

Item 8 – Sister Cities

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor, to introduce the item.

Mayor Gillingham: Yes, Madam Speaker, thank you. Specific to this, the City of Winnipeg does, as we've started to talk about this morning through one of our delegations, several sister city relationships that have been established by councils and mayors over the years. They're important relationships. Some of them are more active than others, but all of the relationships are important and, in fact, I've started to look at kind of all the relationships with all the city of Winnipeg sister cities. I know when this motion did come forward, I did hear from members of Chinese community very concerned about the intent of the motion and citing the importance of the relationship that Winnipeg has with Chengdu, China. So, that's why I'm supportive of receiving this as information and we will be voting as such today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah, I would like to move referral, Madam Speaker. And just to say a few words to that. I believe I can speak to three minutes to the referral motion.

Madam Speaker: Yes, the reason for the referral?

Councillor Wyatt: The reason for the referral is this was not posted as a notice of motion. EPC's voted to receive it as information. I think there should be other due diligence done on it especially in light of recent events that have occurred in China and the Federal Government's decision, Minister Joly, to develop a brand-new foreign policy when it comes to our approach on China that probably hasn't filtered down to the other levels of government, to be fair to everybody here. But that the world has completely shifted since the days of the creation of our sister city in Chengdu. So, I move referral to give us time. And you know, I know it's a 30-day referral back to committee or to Council.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. A referral to?

Councillor Wyatt: I would imagine EPC, right? This is on the EPC agenda, so. And that it would give…if EPC needs more time to deal with this; 60, 90 days more time to consult with other levels of government on where we are going with regards to China. I think it would be worthy. I just wouldn't…don't want to see us in a situation where events take place as events have been occurring there that embarrass us as a city for having a sister city in a country that is committing human rights abuses and where our federal parliament has actually voted for…for they are conducting genocide. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Wyatt moves referral to Executive Policy Committee. Mr. Mayor, you have an opportunity to rebut if you wise or I can call the question.

Mayor Gillingham: Yeah, I'll be voting against referral and just (inaudible) committee to receive it as information. I think if there's information we need to find out regarding sister cities…a sister city, we can certainly do that and do it outside of the framework of our committee structure. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. With that, I will call the question on the referral of this item to the Executive Policy Committee. All in favour of the referral, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Dobson, Schreyer, and Wyatt

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 4, Nays 12.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. The referral is lost. Councillor Wyatt, followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Wyatt: I'm speaking now to the clause, speaking in favour of keeping this matter alive and therefore, voting on the resolution at hand. I have circulated a copy of a letter that I received recently from the Taipei Economic and Cultural

Office in Toronto and…in support of the resolution. I have given all members of Council a copy of that. I wanted to stress very importantly here that I…the motion and the resolutions directed towards the Chinese…the actions of the Chinese government and the development of their foreign policy and their domestic policy in terms of their own people and their…and the Chinese Communist Party. I stand with citizens of the Chinese community of the city who believe in democracy and human rights and that the abuses taking in China are absolutely outrageous. As somebody who's been a strong friend of the Chinese committee, Phillip Lee, former Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, I had the honour of actually naming a major street in the Transcona Ward after the right honourable Phillip Lee and Anita who are good friends of our family. I want to say right now, Madam Speaker, that what is happening in China is completely horrific. We now know Parliament has voted unanimously that a genocide is taking place. The Uyghurs who are of a million…over a million people who are of Muslim minority inside China have been arbitrarily imprisoned. According to human rights organizations that forced sterilization, rape, torture, forced labour, draconian measures are taking place with regards to the Uyghurs with…inside China. They've actually built residential schools. Residential schools. The very residential schools that we here are decrying in terms of our community are actively underway right now in China when it comes to the Uyghur Muslim minority that's in there. We know of the two Michaels and what happened there, which was arbitrary and what they had to go through. We now know of the protests in the last month of courageous Chinese citizens, many of them young people who had the courage to stand up after 10 residents died in an apartment block, protests broke out all over China. The latest report as it stands right now is China is going quietly and sweeping dozens and dozens of young people have disappeared. A young lady, if you can see her picture, go on Al Jazeera, she would be anybody's daughter, 18, 19. December 24th, gone. Family has not heard from her again. You know, why is this being debated here? People say, this is not municipal, this is not City. We have a policy, we have a sister city with Chengdu, China. That is why this is here today. The other reason it's here today is because I was grateful many years ago for having a teacher who said, think globally but act locally. And that is what this resolution is about. Madam Speaker, I am not going to drag this matter out. I will just say this, that we now live in a different world. Policy with regards to China, which was, I think, a good policy, altruistic policy of Kissinger and Nixon, that if we recognize China, trade with China since 1971-'72, that's been the policy 50 years, that the idea is that they would circle around through that trade, through that relationship to come to adopt the ideals of a west…of a liberal democracy as we know them. Whether it be in North America or in Europe or other parts of the world that have now embraced it. But it's clear now that that policy has failed. That China now has a military that the Soviets could only dream of and enriched thanks to our trading practices with them. The Americans have now decided to start to uncouple their economies. The Canadian government has now come around to that last December with Minister Joly's statements on a major foreign policy change for this country. We need to move away. Now, Chengdu, you can say is good relations. It's…you know, we're only trying to keep cultural ties alive. And that may be the case, but it's all about signals, Madam Speaker. We want to signal to the people within China who are fighting for human rights, who have had the courage to stand up and the Chinese community here in Canada and around the world who've had the courage to speak up even though it may mean consequences to their family back in China that we stand with them. This motion all…also reaffirms our commitment to Taichung in Taiwan, our sister city there. The fact that China literally almost on a daily basis threatens Taiwan's freedom and independence with military encourages into their air and water space around the island is an example, Madam Speaker, of why we need to reaffirm our commitment to that city. We are not abandoning that region. We are not leaving…we are reaffirming that tie. And we are reaffirming on the basis of standing on the values of a western liberal democracy. Think globally, act locally. And the very rights and…and as we speak now, Madam Speaker, the world is incumbent on all levels of government to be cognizant of these issues. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. Next speaker, Councillor Eadie, followed by Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Eadie: Thank You, Madam Speaker. I was listening to presentations to EPC on the previous matter as well as the sister city, and I just wanted to point out that you can call it rhetoric on whatever side you're hearing information from. So, I am not going to get into that, Madam Speaker. What I want to talk about in terms of the recommendation of EPC to just receive this as information. One thing it has allowed us to do is to have a discussion and hear about atrocities and violations of human rights that have happened. And Madam Speaker, I was going to move one that was related to the country of India where there's lots of turmoil, populations are such that there is constant conflict and issues happening, Madam Speaker. And it is good to have a discussion. And as I had tried to convince one of my colleagues, Madam Speaker, I did attract some people that I know from…who have moved to Canada and discussed reasons to…with me as to why I shouldn't move a motion in terms of...well, what really are atrocities happening. Many countries around this world have a lot of things going on. And I mean, we could it is here and judge every dictatorship or governorship. I don't know if we have a sister city in Venezuela, but you know, we could chastise them or, you know, from…you know, right-wing policies of Columbia, whatever. So, I just wanted to say that I am actually not going to vote for this. If…if for example, I don't know if we have a sister city in Russia itself, but at this point I would consider suspending any involvement with a sister city in Russia given that they are in outright war against Ukraine, which is not the similarity. There's a lot of threat in Taipei. But Madam Speaker, I haven't seen anybody bring a motion here that…and you know, it could be hot button, but I will say this, this is like saying, let's defunct a sister city in Israel and let's establish a sister city in…Palestines believe they have a country called Palestine. That's their belief. There's a lot of controversy over centuries and millennia in that regard, Madam Speaker. But this motion here puts…like, you are asking me to vote on whether or not my judgment about

whether China has a right to the…to the island state or not. I think that they are an island state. Leave them alone. But Madam Speaker, that's my personal perspective. And so, I just thought that I would point out the ironies behind it and that, yes, there are many serious human rights violations in China. And we did hear…you know, actually, we still have the issues with trying to meet the obligations of the United Nations in regards to the, what do they call it, the Indigenous…it's the rights of Indigenous people around the world. We, this country, while we are progressing, we can't say that we are perfect. Neither is the United States, who I understand won't even sign on to that. So, like, there are many human rights and responsibility issues, Madam Speaker. I don't see that, you know, tossing off a sister city, blaming them for a government of the country and whatever pressures politicians are on in our sister city. I don't know what those pressures are. But luckily, here in our country, we have a…we have a democratic right and we don't have to worry about repercussions if we speak out against the government of Canada or the government of Manitoba for that matter. So, you know, I…anyway, I will be supporting the motion to receive as information that comes from the Executive Policy Committee, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. Councillor Eadie made a number of good points there. A number of points I would like to have made, so I will try and cut the length down a bit here just to say, so often we get these motions and they're framed in a certain way. Well, if you vote to refer for information, are you voting in favour of residential schools and human rights abuses then? Clearly not. And Councillor Wyatt's made a number of good points, quite eloquently, about the situation that is going on on mainland China and the relationship with Taiwan. And Councillor Eadie also has made some good points that we really…today is not the day to be debating that. The easy answer would be to say, we are a city government, we're not involved in international relations, except we have these sister cities. So, I think by taking that step, you do engage to some extent in international relations. What…what is to be done about that? Councillor Eadie makes a number of good analogies; what about Israel? What about Venezuela? What about Russia? If you listen to some of the delegations at EPC, you would have walked away thinking the main issue was not any question about China, but rather, US hegemony. That seemed to be the concern of a couple of speakers, so why are we still having a relationship with Minneapolis then if our main concern should be American policy or internal policy? So, it is an important issue. I don't know that it is really directly within our jurisdiction as a city government, but as Councillor Wyatt points out, we have these sister cities. We do occasionally just try to send signals about things. Sometimes the votes aren't be there. The former mayor tried to get money to help fund a language challenge at the supreme court and a number of us, Councillor Allard and myself said, no, we don't…and others said, no, we're not…I am not in support of that, putting money aside for that. Doesn't mean I have a particular view on the legal case, it's just, at some point, we don't have limitless resources here. So, it is good to have this brought forward by Councillor Wyatt. Obviously, there is some international concern about mainland China. Anyone who watched the last…the winter Olympic games had noticed the absence of political delegations would note that there's international concern about this. But at the end of the day, we could probably suspend all of our sister city agreements if we really wanted to make an exercise of that. And maybe that's a discussion we should have. But I do think there is value to having those sister city arrangements in terms of keeping talking, keeping educating people. The first speaker at EPC, I thought, spoke very well talking about trying to reduce rhetoric and trying to just keep contact with people in the interest of peace. Trying to keep some relations going. And I can't help but think about in the previous term when Councillor Wyatt wasn't here and the seemingly innocent matter of having a flag raising first for the Albanian community for the first time then for the Kosovo community and we got into this history about dispute in Kosovo where there are still NATO peacekeepers. And maybe we should have a sister city there. Maybe we should be debating that again. But it seemed to me to be so far afield to be debating which flags to raise and whether that we should recognize particular jurisdiction. I think you could go almost across the globe and raise issue. And you know, when I go to a picnic of the Albanian community, the last thing I expect to get enmeshed in is some debate about human rights atrocities in Kosovo in the late 1990s and the role of NATO peacekeeping. And yet, that is where we ended up. So, I think the right call here is to refer this to…for information. It is not a disservice, it's not voting in favour of human rights violations. It's good that we've had this chance to debate it, but I do think there are a number of international issues we could enmesh ourselves in. And I think on this one, the correct balance is to refer it for information. I do want to thank Councillor Wyatt who continues to lead me, perhaps slightly, in terms of naming things for people over the years, it to be commended for naming the street for the Lees. And I think…I challenge that, (inaudible) Councillor Santos and I funded the Dr. Du honorary street naming about half a block from here a couple years ago. So, that's still…that sign is still up there. So, we certainly have a strong Chinese community here and I think we've done…taken some measures to recognize that. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Mayor Gillingham to close.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to thank colleagues for their comments. I do want to thank Councillor Wyatt for sharing the letter that he received from Taipei. Certainly, we do continue to support Taiwan and the relationship with Taiwan. And I think…you know, I'll just reiterate in close what a couple of my colleagues have said most recently here. Councillor Mayes, just that maintaining our sister city relationship with Chengdu, China is not the same as supporting national policy of the Chinese government or any human rights violations that may be occurring in that country.

And I think that is important to say. So, I will be voting to receive this matter as information as we did at Executive Policy Committee.

Madam Speaker: All in favour of receiving this item as information? Contrary? Councillor Wyatt is noted in opposition. And the item carries. Next, we will move into notice of motions from our December Council meeting under Executive Policy Committee. These came forward last meeting. They are published on the electronic agenda in front of you. First one is notice of motion, moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Santos regarding the councillor's ward allowance policy. There is an amending motion that's been circulated with…in regards to this as well. Moved by Mayor Gillingham and seconded by myself. Mr. Mayor. Pardon me, Councillor Wyatt, your opportunity to introduce your notice of motion.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF MOTION

Item 1 - Councillor's Offices Resources

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Santos,

WHEREAS City Councillors are provided with an annual office budget of $84,924 known as the Councillors Ward Allowance (CWA), which is used for staff salaries and benefits, the purchase of items required to operate their offices including supplies, equipment and furnishings as well as and other business expenses that are incurred in order to execute their duties, communicate with their constituents, and represent their wards;

AND WHEREAS a Winnipeg Public Service report submitted to the Governance Committee of Council on October 21, 2020 revealed that in comparison to other major Canadian cities, City of Winnipeg Councillors receive amongst the lowest levels of funding to perform their duties and is the only City that does not provide a pension for Councillor's office staff (see Attachment A with 2020 statistics);

AND WHEREAS an independent Governance Review of the City of Winnipeg conducted by MNP LLB, submitted to Council on January 27, 2022, further confirmed that "individual Councillor ward allowances are quite low compared to other Cities, at less than half of the lowest comparable amount", and further recommended "increases in individual budgets to enable Councillors to hire additional capacity";

AND WHEREAS the current level of CWA funding makes it difficulty to attract and retain qualified candidates as Councillors assistants, with over a 50% turnover rate for the 2018 - 2022 Council term, resulting in loss of institutional knowledge and a lessened ability to respond to citizen concerns;

AND WHEREAS on average, approximately 62% of funds from the CWA are used to pay the salaries and benefits of executive assistants, leaving Councillors with limited resources to adequately support and represent their wards, including establishing constituency offices which would allow Councillors to provide direct easily accessible ward based service to constituents;

AND WHEREAS funding was included in the 2022 budget for the purpose of instituting a pension plan for Councillor's office staff, but to date has not been implemented;

AND WHEREAS although increasing funding for the CWA by an additional $74,000 would still leave City of Winnipeg amongst the lowest funded Councillors in Canada at $3.10 per capita, it would allow Councillors to offer better remuneration packages to staff, which would reduce the turnover rate, and would also allow Councillors to set up constituency offices, both of which would greatly increase the level of service Councillors provide to constituents;

AND WHEREAS it is critical that transparency be at the forefront of how taxpayers funds are incurred, with the ideal being that all spending for Councillors Offices occur through submissions of invoices that can be verified and approved by staff in the Corporate Finance and City Clerk's Departments who are currently required to approve CWA expenditures, prior to any funds being paid out;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. *That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to find the necessary funds to accommodate the following restructuring of the Councillor's Ward Allowance (CWA), to take effect February 1, 2023, on a prorated basis:*

A. $89,000 for staffing costs including but not limited to salary, benefits and vacation pay;

B. $30,000 for the setup, and maintenance of a constituency office, including renovations, furnishings, equipment purchase, services, maintenance, rent and other expenses directly related to operation of the constituency office;

C. $40,000 for all other expenditures as currently permitted under the Councillors Ward Allowance Policy;

with funding in each of the 3 categories above restricted to expenses in that funding area.

2. That the City of Winnipeg provide pension (including employee contributions) and benefits to Councillor's office staff, similar to Mayor's Office employees, within 120 days, with funding provided corporately.

3. That funding for the CWA be increased annually at the rate of the Consumer Price Index of the previous year, as determined by Statistics Canada, to a maximum of 2% per year.

4. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council with amendments to the Councillor's Ward Allowance Fund Policy which reflect the intent of the foregoing.

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

Councillor Wyatt: I call the question on the receiving information. Support it.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor to introduce.

Motion No. 3
Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,
Seconded by Councillor Sharma,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Councillor's Offices Resources Notice of Motion be received as information.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. Just introduce the motion to receive this matter as information.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. I would like to…I would like to speak in…I would rise in opposition to receive it as information. Debate…there has been dialogue since it's been on the table. I thank Councillor Wyatt for moving it forward. And I do understand that, you know, there is consideration…great consideration being given to it as the budget comes forward for 2023, Madam Speaker. But I actually thought that this would be a good opportunity to explain to the public why there is a need for such a budget, as you heard through my questioning with Mr. Grant who was in delegation, Madam Speaker. If it is going to be part of the budget, I don't see why we would just…why don't we support this now? Because you know what, Madam Speaker? I don't know that I want to vote for the budgets of 2023 because, Madam Speaker, I have some other very serious issues that I need to see happening in there in order for me to be supportive of the 2023 budget, Madam Speaker. You know, the expectation is, well, then you didn't vote for it, Councillor Eadie and you get this…well, actually Madam Speaker, you get rhetoric from either side of what your position is or decide that, oh, well, Ross Eadie is…you know, opposed to that or whatever and you've got an omnibus budget bill that comes down. And I have voted, Madam Speaker, for all the budgets moving forward to renew our North End sewage plant, but I haven't necessarily always supported the budget. But I get an individual vote, explain to my residents, my voters, where their city councillor is at. And actually, that leads me to the whole point of why I'm supportive of this budget increases for the CWA, Madam Speaker. It is very important. People are pushing big demands on…and I know there's demands on suburban councillors as well or mostly suburban, Madam Speaker, because some of the suburban residential areas have some very old, deteriorating neighbourhoods as well where the demand, constant demand. People are blaming me for everything. We need to have a budget in our office so that we can accomplish the things. Because Madam Speaker, unlike a provincial party, each councillor…and I thank the Mayor, our new mayor who is trying to get us thinking more together, but the reality will always be given the governance structure of the city and I don't see any plans to totally change it in that it will work the same way as the party system. And I don't necessarily want a party system at this level. But Madam Speaker, each of our ward offices needs to have the appropriate resources to accomplish what our citizens expect. And there is a lot of citizens in my ward probably will say, I am not paying money for that. That's just a bunch of gravy for the city councillor. Well, it's not. If you want my…your city councillor to perform and their office to perform what you expect them to do, it has to be funded appropriately. And so, I don't know why…what's the difference whether we vote for it now or vote for it in the

budget? If it's going to be there, it's going to be there. I don't want to bury it, the public needs to hear it, let's discuss it. I don't understand why some people might be okay with information. I'm not. This is on the table. Let's discuss it and debate it because I will be voting for that notice of motion if the receive as information amendment doesn't get passed. So, thank you, Madam Speaker. There are very important reasons that some places need to have an office. Very important that we support our executive assistants who are not constituency assistants, executive assistants have much bigger duties and they get paid appropriately. And I would say I believe EAs in the provincial legislature, executive assistants are making more money than our executive assistants and they have basically probably less responsibilities than a city councillor's EA. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Next speaker, Councillor Schreyer

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will stick my neck out on this one. It's a little contentious when it comes to the budget, how it will be communicated to the public and how it will be perceived. Fair enough, because as I talk about all the time, we raise our taxes, we reduce services, we…we're depleting our reserves and we're asking for more and more money from other levels of government. So, we do, definitely, have an economic budgetary problem here at the City. But Winnipeg's not the only one, the Province is in the same boat. We are not dealing. Part of the problem we're not dealing is, I would say, the councillors themselves are kind of running for bunker on a daily basis. We are reacting to the situation, the fact that we are not properly resourced. We increase our taxes, we decrease our services, and we can't even explain to the people that are here today how that is possible every single year. And that's a fact. It's not my opinion, that's a fact. If I'm wrong about that, if I'm factually wrong, please explain it to me that we've explained to anybody…we've explained to Winnipeggers how it is possible for 30 years, every year, we raise taxes, reduce services, reduce our…and reduce our reserves. Okay? But we need to account for that. I have heard from other councillors that we need to do our own research, why? Because the administration isn't asking these…answering these questions for us. Is that my opinion that they are not answering? Well, have we gotten the answer yet? Has anyone…any one of us gotten the answer why we're increasing our taxes every year, reducing our services…sure, because this is about…this is about staff. So, I just made the point, some councillors are supportive of this because they need to do their own research because we can't get answers. Okay? So, that's not just coming from me, I've heard that here. I'm not making that up. It is a serious point. I can't ignore that. It's a good point. Never quite looked at it that way before. But Madam Speaker, I've worked across this country, I've lived and worked in every province of this country, especially western Canada. I've had jobs which paid more than a city councillor. I've had jobs that I don't recommend to my…to my kids, not well paid, pretty hard jobs, pretty menial, weird, hard, hard labour here and there across western Canada. Having said that, Madam Speaker, I've worked for politicians on the municipal level, city level, provincial and federal. I've worked for politicians that represent the city, rural Manitoba, northern Manitoba. Madam Speaker, I can tell you, working for these politicians having been a city councillor, we are the worst off in terms of our ability to…I've worked for Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation and emergency measures on the provincial level doing individual casework from around the country…from around the province during two floods…during the time of two major provincial floods. So, Madam Speaker, what can I tell you? I've got some insight on this one. We don't…we represent twice as many people as MLAs do. They represent about 20,000 people, 25,000, we represent about 50,000 people. There's only 15 councillors in the city of Winnipeg, Madam Speaker, and we've got half the budget of an MLA. And I know…and I am not the only one who knows this, but I know, we get more phone calls. And we know 311 isn't functioning right. So what are we supposed to do? Say it's okay to keep it this way? It's all right the way things are going? Well, no, it is not all right. Now, the other aspect to this is that, you know, whether it's going to be part of the budget or not. And I know we're going to…it's politics. You know, because this is kind of a no-brainer, this has been coming around for years that this should be the case that city councillors should be as well resourced as MLAs or MPs in proportion to what they do represent…represent…but what they do and whom they represent as the other levels of government. Why? For the sake of the people they represent. For the sake of the taxpayers, for the sake of the citizens, literally because we are not resourced well enough to do our job well enough. And I would…I would say…I've been saying this for years, we see the results. We still can't answer simple questions. And so, there is more to do, Madam Speaker. it's not going to get any easier. And on that basis, I do support the idea that…I'll stick my neck out on this, that we have an obligation to be better resourced like other institutions I have seen. And we see the results of not kind of thing. So, if this is going to be part of the budget, it's going to be part of the budget, you know, whether you support the budget or not, whatever. This doesn't have to be part of the budget. We know this has the support. I…okay, I'll stick my neck out and say, I believe that this has the support of Council right now. Okay, so it's going to be part of the budget. And so, then some people might not be able to vote for the budget, because the budget's not about this comparatively very slim and small increase to the budget compared to what's also a $2 billion annual budget. The City has almost a $2 billion annual budget. So, this increase…well, you know, all right. So, we are going to talk about whether you voted for the budget or not and things like that, so be it. I am not going to go into arguments about that because that happens every single year, kind of thing, Madam Speaker. So be it. But let's be realistic. If we're going to truly represent the people that expect us to and they're saying we're not doing a good enough job, that 311 is not working, we're not getting our answers from the administration, what choice do we have to do for the citizens and the taxpayers of the city that they expect of us? Well, what I have seen in my experience, Madam Speaker, is sometimes it takes a little more help. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers on this item? Councillor Orlikow.

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. And very simply to put, it's about not the merits of this motion. I think some people are getting on to that. But it's very simply a fiscal matter here where it says to find the necessary funds from somewhere. Well, that is what we have the budget for. The necessary funds from somewhere. So, I'll just say right now, if you could take those necessary funds away from tree canopy, I won't be pleased. Again, or you take it away from CSO, I'm not too pleased. We're going to take it away from some of our newcomer policies, not going to be pleased. You're going to take it away from the homeless pile, not going to be pleased. Again, the question was raised, why is this happening and that happening? Well, I don't think we want to go down a path where it says, we're just going to throw motions out there that we could all agree upon, but we have no idea how we're funded, we'll find it out later. We always talk about transparency and openness, well, if you're going to do something like that, which is a significant amount of dollars coming forward, not saying I…I'm not (inaudible) debate about it or not, there's some areas probably I agree with here, some I'm a little bit leery on. But again, the fact of the matter is, for this motion plus all other motions where brought forward that make…make politicians and make us try to drive policy forward without any idea how we're going to pay for something, to me, that is irresponsible. That is completely irresponsible. We're talking about transparency, openness, we talk about being accountable; these are all the words that were used today to justify this, well, I see it differently. If you're going to put this forward, you have to come forward with some ideas of where the money comes from. This doesn't do that, so therefore, I will not be supporting this. However, I do support the motion going forward because I do know that councillors…many councillors, including Councillor Sharma who has been incredibly diligent on this, have moved me from where I was at the very beginning to somewhere in the middle. Maybe not all the way this way, but this is a budget matter. So, again, if it was a referral to the budget process, I don't think it should be necessary because I believe it is part of that already. But again, what I would say, there's generally…and I just want to put my position on the line here, but clearly, if we're going to put motions forward, you better have a funding source for it because that's irresponsible. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Orlikow. Any other speakers? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor, your opportunity to close on the motion, amending motion.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I want to thank Councillor Orlikow for his excellent summary just a moment ago. So, the motion, I think, before us is a motion to receive this matter as information, correct?

Madam Speaker: Yes.

Mayor Gillingham: Okay, thank you. You can call the question on that please. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Wyatt, your opportunity to close on the item as well.

Councillor Wyatt: No, I just want to vote on it. (inaudible)

Madam Speaker: Okay. All right, with that, we will vote on the amending Motion 3 that receives this item as information. All in favour? Contrary? Councillor Eadie and Santos are noted in opposition and it is received as information, no longer…we no longer need to vote on the main item. Next, second notice of motion under this committee. It's moved from…moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Eadie regarding the establishment of Winnipeg-Ukraine humanitarian fund. Councillor Wyatt, your opportunity to introduce your motion. Councillor Orlikow?

Item 2 - Request for the Establishment for a Ukraine Humanitarian Fund

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS on 24 February 2022, the Russian Federation initiated an invasion of Ukraine, a major escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War, which began in 2014 with the unlawful Russian annexation of the Crimea;

AND WHEREAS Russia has, among other things:

1. *attempted to overthrow the democratically elected federal government of Ukraine;*

2. *used its combined arms, including its army, naval, and air forces, to attack military and civilian targets, resulting in tens of thousands of deaths, including innocent civilians, in attempt to unjustifiably encroach on Ukraine's sovereign territory;*

3. *damaged or destroyed over 500 Ukrainian heritage and/or cultural sites; and*

4. has been found, by the United Nation's Human Rights Council's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, to have committed war crimes in Ukraine;

AND WHEREAS it is incumbent on all levels of Canadian government, including municipalities, to mobilize in a national effort to aid Ukrainian's suffering from the unprovoked invasion by Russia on the sovereign state of Ukraine;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg has among the largest Ukrainian populations in Canada on an absolute and per capita basis and it is a moral necessity for the City of Winnipeg to support its Ukrainian population;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the City of Winnipeg create a Winnipeg-Ukraine Humanitarian Fund for the purpose of aiding those suffering from the unprovoked invasion by Russia on the sovereign state of Ukraine;

2. That all donations be matched by the City of Winnipeg on a 1:1 basis;

3. That all funds be transferred to non-profit organizations operating in Ukraine, for humanitarian purposes, on a monthly-basis, upon identification of beneficiary organizations and the establishment of a secure transfer process;

4. That the federal government of Ukraine be requested to assist in facilitating the transfer and direction of funds;

5. That the City of Winnipeg structure the Winnipeg-Ukraine Humanitarian Fund to allow for income tax receipting for any private charitable donation made, be it individual or corporate;

6. That the Winnipeg-Ukraine Humanitarian Fund shall operate for a one year period, and at such time it will be reviewed by City Council to determine the continuation of said program, or upon the termination of all hostilities between Ukraine and Russia, whichever should come first;

7. That the relevant by-laws or policies of the City of Winnipeg and Council be amended accordingly; and

8. That the Proper Officers of the City of Winnipeg do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Motion No. 4
Moved by Councillor Lukes,
Seconded by Councillor Orlikow,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Request for the Establishment for a Ukraine Humanitarian Fund Notice of Motion be received as information.

Councillor Orlikow: I wish to make an amendment…amendment to Motion No. 4.

Madam Speaker: Okay.

Councillor Orlikow: The amending…the amendment is that…sorry, I didn't write it to you. Is this where I should do this, Mr. Clerk? Sorry?

Madam Speaker: You're moving referral or it's an amendment?

Councillor Orlikow: It's a…it's a…

Madam Speaker: Okay, just one moment.

Councillor Orlikow: Sure. And I didn't write it down, sorry.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Back to the notice of motion. We'll start with Councillor Wyatt, it's your opportunity to introduce.

Councillor Wyatt: We have a motion to refer.

Madam Speaker: Yeah. Would you…do you wish to speak to the item?

Councillor Wyatt: Well, I wanted to…if…I will move a…

Madam Speaker: You want to hear from others?

Councillor Wyatt: I'll move a motion to refer. Oh, here we go.

Madam Speaker: The correct procedure is, Councillor Wyatt, you can speak then I would call on Councillor Lukes. However, it seems that we have reached a different scenario where one of the motions is being withdrawn. Councillor Wyatt, would you like to move referral?

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Wyatt moves referral of the item to the Executive Policy Committee. Okay, councillor…Mr. Mayor, you have an opportunity to rebut if you wish.

Mayor Gillingham: You can…if the motion is to refer to EPC, you can call the question on that.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I will call the question. Motion to refer…refer the item to Executive Policy Committee. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Thank you. Pardon me? Next, we have motions. Motion 6: moved by Councillor Allard, seconded by Councillor Schreyer. It's regarding a grant for St. Boniface Street Links. This is an automatic referral to the Executive Policy Committee. Following that, Motion 7 has been circulated; moved by Councillor Allard, seconded by Councillor Gilroy. It's regarding the jurisdiction of the Audit Committee. This is an automatic referral to the Executive Policy Committee. We'll now move into by-laws. Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
MOTIONS

Motion No. 6
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Schreyer,

WHEREAS in 2022 addictions and housing were top of mind for Winnipeg voters;

AND WHEREAS the homelessness and addictions crisis remains a top priority for Winnipeggers;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links provides outreach services in the City, east of the Red River, and have advised that City of Winnipeg funding in the amount $80 000 per year is an insufficient amount to support the level of service provided;

AND WHEREAS the Executive Director of St. Boniface Street Links indicated in January 2023 that without a contribution in the amount of $220 0000 from the City of Winnipeg for their outreach program, they will not have the resources to continue their outreach;

AND WHEREAS in on June 24, 2021, Council approved a grant to St. Boniface Street Links for mobile outreach support;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg, through the 2022 budget update, provided funding to St. Boniface Street Links through an administrative process;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links has demonstrated that they are an excellent resource for unsheltered populations, proactively connecting people to housing and existing social supports and subsidies;

AND WHEREAS the current crisis of the unhoused is caused by a methamphetamine and opioid crisis;

AND WHEREAS St. Boniface Street Links, as an incremental component to their outreach program, has received funding from the federal government for addictions support;

AND WHEREAS if the St. Boniface Street Links outreach program were to close, the federal funding to address addiction would be at risk;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a grant in the amount of $200,000 to St. Boniface Street Links be referred to the 2023 Budget Review Process for consideration.

Motion No. 7
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS the City Organization By-law No. 71/1997 (the By-law) provides jurisdiction to the Executive Policy Committee to act as the Audit Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. *That the City Organization By-law No. 71/1997 be amended as follows:*

   A. *To remove the requirement for the Executive Policy Committee to act as the Audit Committee.*
   B. *To provide the Governance Committee of Council with jurisdiction over all audit matters currently delegated to the Executive Policy Committee.*
   C. *To allow the Governance Committee of Council to report directly to Council for all audit related matters.*

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS – 1ST READING ONLY

Mayor Gillingham: I would then move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law 16/2023, 17/2023, and 18/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That is carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 16/2023, 17/2023, and 18/2023.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS - 2ND AND 3RD READINGS

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. I move that the following by-laws be read a second time: By-law 123/2022, By-law 148/2022, By-law 150/2022.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That is carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 123/2022, 148/2022, and 150/2022.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor, next section.

Councillor Wyatt: Madam Speaker, and leave the gallery on the next by-law.

Madam Speaker: Okay, thank you. Which by-law is that? Which by…which number? Could you read into the record which number that is, please?

Councillor Wyatt: By-law No. 13/2023.

Madam Speaker: I don't see that number here. Okay, Councillor Wyatt, if you could come back, that is the next section, if you like. Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you for causing Councillor Wyatt's Fitbit to go off. All the steps he's taking here. So, I would then move that By-laws No. 123/2022, 148/2022, 150/2022 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councillor Wyatt declaring a conflict on 13/2023. Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-law 13/2023 be read a first time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That's carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 13/2023.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. I move that By-law No. 13/2023 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That's carried. If we could be at our seats, please, during the vote. Thank you.

Clerk: By-law No. 13/2023.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Gillingham: Thank you. I move that the rule be suspended and that By-law 13/2023 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That's carried. Seeing the hour, I think we should now recess.

Councillor Schreyer: Madam Speaker, point of privilege if I may for one minute. India is celebrating republic day today. Seventy-fourth anniversary of India becoming an autonomous republic. And it's not a point of privilege? And Australia's…Australia's celebrating Australia Day today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. We will now recess and reconvene at 1:15? Yes, yes sir. Thank you. Council will adjourn until 1:15 p.m. Thank you.

Reconvened meeting of
Winnipeg City Council of
January 26, 2023, at 1:33 p.m.

Madam Speaker: Good afternoon. I would like to reconvene our Council meeting of January 26th, 2023. And we're on the Executive Policy Committee question period for the Mayor. Any questions for Mayor Gillingham? Any questions? Seeing none, let's move on. Standing Policy Committee on Public Works. It's the report dated January 10th, 2023. Councillor Lukes.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
DATED JANUARY 10, 2023

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, this item here, the sidewalk, snow and ice removal on residential streets by-law is being referred back to…or this motion is, regarding the by-law, is being referred back to the Public Works Committee where we're going to speak with the department to see if we can refine and articulate the clarity.

Madam Speaker: Are you moving consent of Item 1 and 2?

Councillor Lukes: Sorry. I am just excited about this one.

Madam Speaker: Yes, we know you are.

Councillor Lukes: Sorry. Okay. Sure, I will move Item 1 and 2.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Browaty pulls 2. I'll call the question on…unless you want to stand it down? I'll call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Mr. Clerk, Item 2.

Item 2 – Reduced Speed Neighbourhood Pilot – Speed Limit Changes

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes, your opportunity to introduce the item.

Councillor Lukes: Perfect. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. This is a very exciting item, but I want people to realize the item that we are voting on today is regarding…primarily, it's the by-law to change the speed limits on the streets for the pilot project. We've voted on the pilot project already. It received probably not unanimous support. I can't recall exactly, but I'm going to hazard that it wasn't unanimous, but majority support to proceed with the pilot. Today we're voting on the requirements to change the by-law so we can change the speed limits in the four pilot areas.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Browaty.

Councillor Browaty: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I speak…I'm rising today to speak in opposition to the trials that have been proposed in these four areas. Again, everybody understands vehicles are dangerous. They can cause great harm to pedestrians if they are hit. That is why we have rules in Manitoba. There are driving tests you have to take. I just pulled it up here, the driving handbook, the current version says, "Safe speed allows you to stop safely in emergency situations." That means if you're in an area where there's parked cars and little Johnny can come running out, you are driving too fast if you can't stop to…if you can't stop in enough time to stop hitting the pedestrian entering the street. Unless otherwise posted, the maximum speed limit is 90-kilometers an hour in rural areas and 50-kilometres an hour in urban areas. Poor driving conditions require you to drive more slowly. At no time should you exceed the posted maximum speed limit. It's upon everybody who uses the road; drivers, pedestrians, cyclists. You have to be very careful. These are shared spaces in many cases. 50-kilometers an hour on a lot of local streets under the right conditions is a prudent speed limit. That's how the…the engineering is. I mean, there are some streets that are under-engineered in our city, I will acknowledge that. So, that means, you know, when there is a pedestrian in the roadway because there's no sidewalk, you slow down. When there's parked cars, when there's curves in the road and it is icy, when it's raining out. There's lots of areas where, to be in compliance with the Manitoba driver's handbook, you have to slow down already. I don't think we need to go down this road. Pun not intended. Again, on these little bays, you know, I think of the…I have driven my bike to Bourkevale, as an example. I don't see many cases in Bourkevale where you would be driving 30 or 40-kilometers an hour or 50-kilometres an hour. Sure, you know, my bay, I mean, I don't, you know, ever get over 40, for example, my little bay. You are not traveling any great distances on it. But some of these more significant local collector streets that are longer, there's no parked cars, in many cases, there's no driveways even. 50-kilometers an hour if road conditions are good enough. I mean, there's instances in parts of the city where these local collectors have built-in speed mitigating factors because they are older and whether or not they're potholed and often cases, the joints and stuff are up and down, you are naturally slowing down. It's not safe for your vehicle or for yourself or for pedestrians and others to go at these…at the maximum speed limits. So, again, I think we're just going down a path that is unnecessary. Prudent driving, 100%. We look at the statistics, I mean, there aren't too many injuries on our roads, but those typically aren't on our local streets. They're on our main arterial streets where there's more activity. You've got…you know, I was driving down Henderson Highway this morning and thinking about it. You've got, you know, people parked right at the curb, you've got narrow lane widths that are more narrow when there's snow, there's people that are distracted on their phones. I was out of town the last couple days and I had a green pedestrian light and a cement truck cut me off, I was a second away. If I had been on my phone, as I have been a lot before, I could have been hit by a cement truck that was going around a corner against the green pedestrian light. So, again, you have to be careful. Pedestrians, everybody has a responsibility. If we start choosing some streets get and some don't, how do you know? You have to sign each and every one of them. This street is going to be 30, this street is going to be 50. On one…you know, if you have one long street, are you going to make one of them the 50 and not the next one? Like, you take some of those parallel streets in River Heights, for example, not to pick on my good colleague…my good friend and colleague, Councillor Orlikow. You know, you've got Ash, Waterloo, Elm, Oak, all of those long streets where you have to sometimes travel some distance to get to the next street. If you pick one of them to be the 50 and all the others are 30, can you imagine how much more traffic the one that's 50 is going to get? And I think they'll all just simply too long for…not to have a collector in between, you know, the next…the next major street, in my personal opinion. So, again, I know people are well intended. We all want safety of all of…for all Winnipeggers, but we also need

to realize that the road network is to get people from A to B. Whether you're on a bike, pedestrian or in a vehicle. There is an awful lot of vehicle traffic out there. So, again, I just encourage you to vote against this today. I support road safety, but this is not the path we need to take.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Browaty. Any other speakers? Councillor Eadie, followed by Councillor Allard.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to speak in favour of this report so that a pilot study can be undertaken, Madam Speaker. But…and really, I see this pilot offering is related to the demand of a certain sector of our population whose perception is that there are a lot of cars speeding on our residential streets, similar to what my colleague who just spoke was mentioning. And I always ask the question, when we are looking at applying restrictive measures on motor vehicles along Scotia on the bicycle route, I really question, well, what is the problem you are trying to fix? There's…it's actually…Scotia is a safe street. It really is, Madam Speaker. I lived around it for almost all of my life. We used to play ball hockey on Scotia. Although, you know, there wasn't that many motor vehicles, but the actual density of the neighbourhood hasn't changed much. There was actually way more kids around back when I grew up along Scotia because every family…you know, in seven houses, I believe, add eight with the Black family, we were talking on one short block of Luxton Avenue there was like 38 kids. 38 in eight houses. Anyway, so…and we used to end up the block wasn't big enough to handle us, so we would go on Scotia. I digress. This is to change the by-laws so that they can put up the signages. In the end, we worked out on Scotia that we would go with the 30kph, which was a balance achieved. And you know, sitting out on my stoop on Scotia, I have to say, there were some cars going over 30-kilometers an hour for sure. And I mean substantially over because there is always going to be outliers, always. Some young dude's got his brand new car and he is ready to rock and roll and he stomps on the gas. And then, that is what happened to…in a situation where there was a child that died and my colleague from Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry will remember the situation on a particular street near William Whyte School, where a child did die on a residential street because of a motor vehicle. In that circumstance, that motor vehicle was violating the law. That is when we see these accidents, when people don't follow the rules, Madam Speaker. I am for undertaking this study. There is a lot of people that think a car is going really fast when it's not. Especially when it coming to, like, a three-tonne truck that's bringing me my couch. Looks like it is going down the street…it looks like it's going really fast, but it's really not, Madam Speaker. It's…it's people's perception of speed. It's people's perception of safety that we are talking about in this regard. So, let's do the…let's do the pilot. But what I've found in my ward when we get the traffic studies done, way over 80% of the people on a residential street are already doing close to 40 kph. Councillor Smith and I back in my first term, we proposed just to go with 40 kph based on a study from Edmonton, a pilot study they did in a whole neighbourhood. 40 kph is not going to anger anybody because again, most of the traffic is going 40 kph. So, I noticed they are studying 30 and 40 and the feedback that's going to come back, Madam Speaker, on the pilot are, we know that that certain sector are going to be the ones who probably put in most of their input into it because, you know, essentially, the majority of people in these neighbourhoods, they're not really concerned about the speed because they don't see it. Although, if you do have kids, you worry, right? But with my kids, Madam Speaker; stop, look and listen. I pounded that into their brains over and over and over because I didn't want to see them get hurt. They listened to me. And they used to play on a residential street. They would play a game. But they would watch and listen while they're playing. That is what we used to do on residential streets to play ball hockey or do whatever. So, I will leave it at that. Collector streets are interesting, difficult issues. They look way more dangerous. Although, Scotia is considered to be a collector, I guess. But Madam Speaker, the reality, again, is there will always be these people who just…I heard somebody speak at EPC the other day and talked about the…it is only about them. They don't think about others. And so, they want to enjoy driving fast. They don't like following rules because they believe…what they believe is most important in the world and not to follow rules. If you want to see people safe on our regional streets, we need to pound over and over and over again, where most of the deaths happen, follow the rules, follow the rules, follow the rules. Because you know, I know somebody who once injured somebody really badly on Main Street. That person with the guilt that he had to live with for decades, decades was awful on him. So, when you are driving if anybody is in the public, don't speed. If you get into an accident, you're going to have to pay the repercussions too. Not just the families who lost their kids or lost their mum or lost their sister, what is going to happen is you…and if you don't, I would be hard to believe that most human beings in this world wouldn't be affected for the rest of their life based on what happened. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah, I rise, Madam Speaker. I won't be supporting this either. I share a lot of the concerns raised by Councillor Browaty. I am a believer that…you know, when I had the opportunity to be the chair of the mayor's environmental advisory committee, MEAC, worked with many individuals involved with cycling and cycling community and it was very…it was very useful because I found it a great educational opportunity for myself to learn. One of the things I was able to gather from the members of the committee who came forward with ideas and information was the concept of safety by design. Design is the way to go in terms of traffic and traffic speeds. What is pointed out, I think it was a young man who's still…he's actually operating a bike store now, Anders Swanson was very eloquent about how in Europe and especially northern Europe, Scandinavia, what they've done is through design of their streets, which they often do when they have to go in and renew a street, they change the design of the street is that they bring in designs that naturally slow people

down. You don't have to do it through enforcement. Enforcement, of course, creates a whole other bottle of challenges for us. We get calls from constituents saying I want a police car on the corner. Well, we can't put a police car on every corner to enforcement, we just don't have the resources. But if you do it by design as Anders educated the committee at the time, people will slow down naturally. An example he used to give was the example of Corydon Avenue, driving down Corydon Avenue. People just naturally slowdown. You know that area, that section where all of the businesses and shops, little Italy as they call it, everybody slows down to like 40-kilometers an hour on Corydon, just naturally. And those…the speed limit there is actually 50, but everybody is doing like 40. It's remarkable. And so, you know, Madam Speaker, it can be done by design. You put in the bump outs to slow people, put in speed tables, traffic tables, versus the humps, you put in…you know, in case there's a bus that has to go down, right, so it can clear both axles. That's how you do it, that's how you slow the traffic down. You don't do it by saying, okay, all of a sudden, this street's going to be 50 and this one's going to be 40 and that one's going to be 30. To Councillor Browaty's point, it's hard enough to try to keep track. And then you've got these…you know, if you have a vehicle that changes the speed limit on you while you are driving because it gives you an indicator, well, this is the speed limit now, but then you're thinking, well, is that really speed limit or is the speed limit low on this street? I don't know what is the speed limit. You know, you don't want to…you don't want to be speeding on the streets, you want to follow the law as everybody tries to do, I think, when they drive, the majority of people. So, you know, it just adds to the confusion. I would encourage…I know my predecessor who sat in this chair before was very much in favour. I didn't hike here. To me, it's not…it doesn't make sense. If you do it by design, and we have a wonderful opportunity, by the way. Most of the…we have…we all know the red lines around our wards, so those…you know, if we get the map from Public Works, all the streets painted red are all the poor rated streets. All the streets coloured yellow are all the fair rated streets. And then, you've got the nice green ones which are, unfortunately, not as many as we'd like, are good. We have a wonderful opportunity with all the red lined streets. That's when we come in and we do the renewals of them. At that point we can say to the Public Works Department, this is a new standard. I've…bring that initiative. You know, the idea that this is the criteria now for fixing existing residential streets, we will do it by design. So, we will incorporate this at the same time which means we're not paying for a new program. It's part of the existing residential street program to raise the standard, reduce the speeds by a design as they…as they have done in Scandinavia and parts of Europe, as Anders would go on and on and on about. And thank god he did because he kind of took…it takes awhile and sometimes (inaudible) stick it to this head of mine. So, you know, he educated me. I am grateful forever for him to do that. And he is now doing a wonderful job bringing bikes in from Europe that are just amazing to ride. So, you know, I would suggest that that's the route to go. I know this is a pilot project. I know Councillor Allard, I believe, was the one who spearheaded this at the time when he was chair. I know he's passionate about it. And I just really believe that…and I am not against the idea of slowing the speed limits down on residential streets. I'm not against…and I know the statistics do. That was the other thing that Mr. Swanson spoke lengthy at, he would talk about the statistics in terms of the injuries that if you are at 50, this is the greater chance of mortality, right. If you drop down to 40, the chance of mortality drops dramatically. 30 it's like almost nil, I think. I've (inaudible) memory, Madam Speaker. I don't know. This…along those lines in terms of a collision with a pedestrian or a cyclist and an automobile. I get that, right? But he said the solution is not through regulation. The solution is through design. People will slowdown if you design the roads properly just like they do on Corydon Avenue. So, I think that is the way to go. That is the lasting way to go. You yourself, Madam Speaker, did a wonderful job when you built Court Avenue west of Pipeline. You have speed humps, I think, every 200 meters or so. Speed traffic tables. You can't go faster on Court Avenue…you can't go…you can't go more than 40 on Court unless you want to take the bottom of your car up. You know, madam…you know. Pardon? Oh, was it Templeton? Was it Templeton? It was Templeton. My apologies. Forgive me, I am from Transcona. Anyways, so…and so, where all the school…there's a school on there. Anyway, you know, like every 200 meters there's traffic table. Well, guess what? That road was built, developed and paved with the traffic tables, didn't cost the City anything. Nobody can go more than 40. You're lucky if you can get up…you know, up to 40, actually, with traffic. So, that is an example of what can be done. And matter of fact, we can adopt this policy when it comes to the streets in the new areas coming up. We should automatically require it in the new areas. Right now, it is the initiative of individual councillors having to insist at a public hearing, well, a traffic table's going to go here, a bump out's going to go there. It should be automatically part of our engineering policy that when this road's out, this is what should happen. So, those are my thoughts on it. Anyways, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. Next speaker, Councillor Allard, followed by Councillor Chambers.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wasn't going to speak, but through you Madam Speaker to Councillor Wyatt; I was called out, so I thought I would make a few comments. I do agree with my colleagues that the speed…speed through design is the best way to address the speeding issue. I do think that this is an issue that is politically important to our residents. It's like our residents are of two minds. There's the resident…the same person might reside on a street and see motor vehicles driving on their street and feel that the motor vehicles are going fast. Often times they are speeding. Sometimes they are not, but sometimes it still looks like they are speeding. Where I used to live on a boulevard…Promenade Des Intrepides, very small street, cul-de-sac, it's a promenade. You shouldn't be going 50 on that street, but it is 50 on that street. One of the things I wanted to add is that it's a bit of a chicken or egg problem because currently, what I am…what I have been told by engineers is that the engineer based on the speed. And so, if you engineer based on the speed, you are not going to see those reductions in speed limits. However, if you do have a street that has

a maximum speed of 30, say, on many of our greenways, and greenways being, according to 1980s law, a street, but according to how we currently employ the term greenway, it's a a place where the bicycles are meant to use a street to connect the active transportation network. And so, on those…on those streets, since they are greenways, 30 kilometres per hour, they are then…they're then…there is then the opportunity to engineer for 30. And so, I think…I think the conversation is complex. I think there's nuances. I think engineer…I think that the best way to reduce speeds is through design. I have come to that conclusion through many, many conversations. I think one of the…one of the places we may want to look, and I have brought this up through Council motions before, and I know budgets are tight, but photo enforcement revenue currently goes 100% to the Winnipeg Police Service. The authorization of the City of Winnipeg for using those revenues is for safety. And so, safety can be…is not defined. So, I believe we could use some of those budgets to improve safety in terms of engineering upgrades. And I think there would be a way of phasing in some revenue from photo enforcement and tying it directly to engineering upgrades in streets. I had previously proposed starting that in school zones since it's been my observation through my years here on City Council that there does not seem to be much impact on behaviour regardless of the number of tickets. And at the time they were having this discussion, there was the talk of flashing beacons being installed in school zones. That hasn't gone very fast. I don't think…there may be one or two beacons maybe. And so, our school zones are seeing in many cases very high levels of tickets and very low levels of changes in driver behaviour. So, if we want people to be driving 30-kilometers an hour in our school zones, then engineering changes are required. There has been very little if not no change in driver behaviour based on photo radar enforcement tickets. So, I do believe that this is a very nuanced conversation that we need to have. And I think that there is work to do in terms of what are arterial streets, what are collector streets, what are residential streets. And some people think it should be 30-kilometers per hour everywhere. I don't…I don't think even many members of the active transportation community believe that. I think they believe that on higher speed roads we need to have separated facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. And we need to invest in that infrastructure. And it is a good investment. Every time we invest in cycling facilities and active transportation facilities, every time somebody decides to not take that single passenger automobile trip, that person is saving money, which they then spend on the local economy. That person is putting less wear and tear on the roads, which saves all of us taxpayers' dollars. Sidewalk snow clearing and snow clearing for active transportation is much easier to do than the larger streets that have to be cleared in order for motor vehicle traffic to be accommodated. And so, I think…I think this speed conversation is part of a larger conversation that we need to have encouraging modal shift here in Winnipeg and that means finding ways to get around that aren't only single passenger automobile trips, which account for about 80% of our trips today. Sorry, 80% of our trips are by car and 90% of those trips are done by single occupancy motor vehicles. 50% of our climate…of our climate greenhouse gas emissions are due to private vehicle traffic. Most of that is residential traffic. So, if…not even considering the climate implications, every time somebody decides to take a trip that is not a private motor vehicle trip, there is that private benefit, more money in the pocket, that money's put back into local businesses, there's less wear and tear on our roads, it's much easier to service active transportation facilities than it is roads, but there is also a reduction in the number of cars on the road, which reduces congestion. And so, I think this is part of the conversation. And I think that in terms of whether or not we should be addressing this through design or through speeds, it is a bit of a chicken or egg situation where the engineers will say, street is designed for this speed. So, that is why there isn't traffic calming or there is traffic calming. The other thing I point to, is in a recent report from the Public Service, I think by petition, 150 petitions were received for traffic calming in communities, only two were funded. So, I believe there to be a great disconnect with what our residents are asking for on the residential streets that they reside on and the number of projects that are actually being implemented. I know that in my ward, one of the projects didn't go forward because there wasn't enough speeding. There was speeding, but there wasn't enough speeding. And the matrices that are…develop our Public Service are made with some consideration for how much the cost would be. And you can imagine what the matrices look like, only two out of 150 projects are being funded. And so, we need to priorize for livability's sake, I think, and safety, but also livability. People feel better when they're living on a street where they don't feel that cars are speeding. And so, I'll be supporting this…this report. I am not sure I can take credit for the 30, 40k neighbourhood implementations. It was an organic thing that kept changing over time through administrative reports. But I think it is a step in the right direction having this conversation on modal shift, changing street design. And, really, having a more livable city where there's more mobility options in Winnipeg. So, thank you for your attention, Speaker Sharma.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Allard. Next is Councillor Chambers, followed by Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Chambers: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As of October 20…October 20th, 2022, the number of serious fatal crashes in the city of Winnipeg had risen dramatically over the previous year. As of that date in 2022, there were 30 serious collisions in the city of Winnipeg, 21 fatalities, which is a significant increase from 2021 when nine people died on Winnipeg streets. Recognizing that one fatality on Winnipeg streets is too many. It has been, you know, debated whether or not it's about reducing the speed limits or whether it's about engineering of our streets. But I do recognize, Madam Speaker, that it is not just a matter of lowering the speed limits. It is kind of like that saying, you know, if a tree falls in the forest, does it make a sound if there is nobody there? It's much like this, Madam Speaker. We reduce the speed limits down to 30, but there's no enforcement, is there going to be compliance? And what we recognize, Madam Speaker, is that police are currently stretched in terms of resources. And even though traffic enforcement is…is a significant portion of their duties,

lowering the speed limit just creates more demand of those resources to meet that compliance. So, whether we look at this from another perspective in terms of road design and looking how we can better manage people's habits around driving. And some of those habits around driving include distracted driving. That Winnipeggers are still sitting at traffic lights that have turned green and are waiting 3 and 5 and 10 seconds before they move on because they are on their phones. I've seen it, as a matter of fact, this week. Stopped at a red light, light turned green, I drove by. A person who was second in line and clearly saw his phone out on...him paying more attention to his phone than on the task of driving. So, there are other issues that we do need to focus on in terms of road safety, including impaired driving, distracted driving and speed. But you know, if we're looking at reducing the speed limits, that does come with another piece, which is the enforcement piece that brings around that compliance. Because simply dropping the speed limit is not going to get the compliance to reduce the amount of road fatalities that we have in our city. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Chambers. Councillor Gilroy.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this. I think it's really time…it's time that we do…when we move forward with this. There's lots of different municipalities that are moving with the reduced speeds. I think it's really important that we do a pilot so we can see, you know, where those speeds are needed. I really…I really do want to highlight that when we look at the number of people that drive compared to the number of people that don't drive, there's actually less drivers that don't drive than drive. And I think that that's critical as we're talking about, you know, younger people, older people that don't drive anymore. We are leaving out a large portion of the population that really is left out of this discussion when we talk about issues pertaining to speeds. And I also want to highlight the importance that we need to do both; the built environment and reduction of speeds, having these two together is really critical because as you have new, young people learning how to cycle they need to learn how to do it on the built environment, they also need to do it on areas where it's just reduced speed, but there…but there is car traffic. Because likelihood there is going to be areas we're not going to have the built environment everywhere and people will have to learn how to cycle amongst traffic. So, you really do need both and you need the ability to make sure that you have that reduced speeds in order for people to be able to learn to do that in traffic. And that is really critical for our young people. I know that that's something that I have seen along Wolseley Avenue, we get way more people that are driving to school on their…on their bikes because of the reduction of speeds along Wolseley. And of course, there are…it becoming a summer route where people are reduced to the speeds. So, it really is critical. The timing is now. We have shifted and changed. As cities grow, there's more and more drivers and we have to remember that there's a large portion of people that are under 16 that don't drive and we have a lot of seniors. And when we look at pedestrian and cycling, it isn't just cycling. So, when I choose to walk…in my community, I choose to walk down the streets that have less traffic just for the sake of being around less traffic, feeling of more nature. So, I think this is critical. The timing is now. I really enjoy that we're going to have the ability to now have built…the built-in traffic calming as well as areas that are just slowing traffic down so new cyclists can really learn how to drive…ride a bike with traffic. Because the reality is, that is how people are going to end up driving at some point in our city. So, thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Gilroy. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wasn't going to say anything, but inspired by a number of speakers here. Councillor Allard was able to speak for a few minutes in terms of how this relates this to public transit, because it does. We are talking about alternatives to vehicles, that is good for public safety. We talked about…we talked about the efficiencies, environmental energy efficiencies. But bare something in mind, Madam Speaker, you know, it's $3 to take the bus these days, one-way. If you're not there in time to take the transfer, it's $6…$6 to take the bus. $6 to take the bus. So now, we've got to figure out…someone's got to say, well, you know, it cost me $4 in gas. I know I'm paying for my license and paying, you know, for my registration, I'm paying for this and that. But on a daily basis when one already has made a commitment to own a car because it takes $6 to take a bus. Therefore, it might be more economical to take your car and that is where we are at. It's more economical to take the car because it costs $6 to take the bus. Now, in my lifetime, the cost of bus fare has gone from 10 cents to $3. So, it's gone up 30 times, Madam Speaker. Did the wage of the bus driver go up 30 times? No. So, we know it's not the bus drivers. That is not the reason the cost of the bus…bus fare has gone up 30 times. People's wages in general have gone up 3, 3 and a half times in the last 50 years. So, that means that in comparison to people's wages and our affordability, the cost of a bus has gone up 8…8 times compared to when I was born kind of thing. So, that is important, Madam Speaker. Can't solve a problem you can't explain. You can't solve a problem you don't understand. So, why is it that the cost of a bus has gone up almost 10 times more than people's income in two generations? And that's how you have to look at politics. You can't look in politics in sort of a four-year term or a four-year budget cycle or, you know, a decade. That is not how it works in politics. We have seen in my lifetime and I have been there, paid my dime, now it's $3 for me to take the bus, $6 dollar trip. We want to talk about…well, Matt Allard was allowed to talk about it, so it's important to me. Very good points, as far as I'd say. I know and…I didn't shut him up because it's excellent points. What the point is, feasibility of making sure that people take public transport. So, when it costs $6 to take a bus and it's cheaper to take a car, well guess what's going to happen? Now, Winnipeg is the capital for…Matt Allard was talking about…I think they are excellent points. So, I just wanted to raise them up. Okay, Madam

Speaker, I will leave it at that. But we're talking about why we're having pilot projects, we're talking about driver safety, we're talking about encouraging public transit which does encourage public safety. Well, let's encourage public transit. Let's explain to the people of Winnipeg why the cost of taking a bus has gone up almost 10 times compared to their income in my lifetime. Then actually, you know what, we're going to make more sense to people. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Seeing none, Councillor Lukes to close.

Councillor Lukes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This really is about the by-law. You know, everyone has brought interesting points forward. I guess I could speak to a couple of them, you know. The thing I think that really is, in my discussions, endless discussions with Public Works on speed, is really the death, the dying, the carnage it's not…is not occurring on residential streets, it's occurring on our primary corridors and at intersections. This is truly about quality of life as we densify our city. When I hear safety by design, I absolutely agree with that, but I do think we have to realize that much of the city is built and we need to look at what is existing. We will never be able to afford redesigning every street. I completely agree with safety by design. And we are, just as an update, through the development agreement parameters review, we are absolutely having those discussions in how our designs are for future streets that are being built. It actually scares me to hear that it is hard for people to keep track of the speed limit on streets. That is very concerning because you are driving a powerful vehicle on a street. I think we need to all be aware of the speed limits. What also scares me is the countless number of plastic signs we have had made that say, "Please slow down". Good initiative, Councillor Gilroy, but we've got to end the plastic signs. You know, it's…and then, I guess, again, on the Public Works Committee, I think I can say this with 100% confidence that just…that every Public Works Committee agenda has at least three or four please slow down traffic calming motions and issues. Cities all over the world are doing this. Cities all over Canada are doing this. This is a pilot project. An example, 40-kilometers to go one kilometer at 40-kilometers is going to take 18 seconds longer. So, it's a pilot project. These are by-laws that are in front of us today. We are proceeding with it, if the vote passes, and we'll all learn and we'll all make changes if this goes through, I'm sure. When I reflect back, and you all have heard this many times, 20 years ago, people didn't even know what the term 'active transportation' was. So, we're making progress, maybe not as fast as some other cities, but it truly is about quality of life for neighbourhoods in a city where we are densifying. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Lukes. With that, I'll call the question on Item 2. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Councillor Wyatt is noted in opposition. And the item carries. Next is Motion 8. It is moved by Councillor Allard, seconded by Councillor Gilroy. It's regarding sidewalk plowing. It will be an automatic referral to the standing committee. Motion 9: moved by Councillor Allard, seconded by Councillor Gilroy, regarding motor vehicle noise infractions. Also an automatic referral to the standing committee. Motion 10: moved by Councillor Allard, seconded by Councillor Santos. This was just circulated. The topic, Mr. Chair…Mr. Clerk, is? Okay, it's regarding the snow clearing by-law. And this will also be an automatic referral to the standing committee. We'll now move in to by-laws under this committee. Chairperson, Councillor Lukes.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
MOTIONS

Motion No. 8
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS the public service has identified that the reason that plowing to pavement on sidewalks is not possible given the poor condition of sidewalks with uneven surfaces would create too big a risk to damage equipment and therefore was not recommended;

AND WHEREAS in another Council report where the public service quantified the numbers of sidewalks that were not renewed as part of the road renewal program because they were deemed to be in good condition, and where the sidewalks were deemed to be in poor condition these were renewed;

AND WHEREAS the public service may now with this information generate a list of sidewalks that are in good condition city wide;

AND WHEREAS plowing to a snow packed surface only works some of the time, where melting and freezing conditions may leave sidewalks in treacherous conditions, and plow to pavement with a combination of salt and sand can leave a sidewalk in a superior condition to a snow packed surface;

AND WHEREAS plowing to pavement is possible given that it is currently done in part of the city such as the downtown;

AND WHEREAS plowing to pavement would be a higher level of service for sidewalks and would encourage more people to walk in the winter instead of using other modes of transportation, and pedestrian safety would also increase;

AND WHEREAS pedestrian death and injury has been on the rise and residents using sidewalks is safer than residents walking on the road;

AND WHEREAS residents choosing to walk instead of driving will reduce the number of single passenger automobile trips, reducing the wear and tear on Winnipeg roads, with savings being found there from reductions in maintenance costs, people choosing other means for transportation will mean less vehicular traffic reducing traffic congestion and that people who use other means of transportation have more money in their pockets to support local businesses instead of monies leaving the city through the purchase of gasoline;

AND WHEREAS there is a list of road conditions City-wide and there should be a list of sidewalk conditions city wide; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:

1. *Select one sidewalk per Council Ward for a plow-to-pavement trial during the 2023-2024 winter season and report back to Council regarding the challenges and successes of the pilot, and include the following:*

    A. *Options and associated costs for the potential expansion of the pilot using in-house resources.*

    B. *The condition of all sidewalks and streets within the City.*

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

Motion No. 9
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Gilroy,

WHEREAS resident complaints continue regarding motor vehicles that are in violation of the noise by-law, impacting quality of life because of issues including forcing residents indoors or affecting people's ability to speak;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg police is responsible for the noise enforcement by-law;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg police do not have the capacity to address this issue city wide and to the level expected by residents;

AND WHEREAS new technology would allow municipalities to issue photo enforcement for by-law violations related to vehicles that violate the noise by-law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. *That the Province of Manitoba be requested to consider the legislative changes necessary to allow for photo enforcement of motor vehicle noise infractions.*

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

Motion No. 10
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Santos,

WHEREAS Council in the past changed its snow clearing policy so that it may provide a superior level of service on streets that are links to the active transportation network;

WHEREAS since the passing of this report by Council, active transportation has evolved in the city and the list of streets that complete the active transportation may have changed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Service re-evaluate and report back on the inventory of active transportation facilities and their connection to the entire network.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Service provide recommendations to amend the snow clearing by-law to address any changes, where that may no longer be the requirement for a higher level of service for a street if the active transportation facility providing that link has since come on line.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event of the construction of new active transportation facilities that are currently disconnected to the network because the streets connected to them need to have their level of service upgraded in order to once again complete the network.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Public Service recommend multiple budgets and options for better snow clearing and removal near schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Service report back on this matter in 180 days.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Lukes: I'd like to move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 1/2023 and By-law No. 2/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 1/2023 and 2/2023.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: I'd like to move that By-laws No. 1/2023 and 2/2023 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 1/2023 and 2/2023.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Lukes.

Councillor Lukes: And I'd like to move that the rules be suspended and By-laws No. 1/2023 and 2/2023 be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Question period under this committee. Any questions for our Chair, Councillor Lukes? Any questions? Seeing none, next committee, Standing Policy Committee on Finance.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DATED JANUARY 12, 2023

Councillor Browaty: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to…I'd like to introduce the report of January 12th and move Item 1 as consent.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now move right in to question period. Any questions for our Chair? Any questions for Councillor Browaty? Seeing none, next committee I am handing over to our Deputy Speaker. Councillor Eadie, if you could take the next committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Madam Speaker. So, we are moving on to the Water, Waste and Environment Committee.

Councillor Mayes: January 6th.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Sorry.

Councillor Mayes: Jan 6th.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: January 6th. And Councillor Mayes to introduce his portfolio.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER, WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
DATED JANUARY 6, 2023

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I would like to move the report of the committee dated January 6th, Items 1 and 2, pulling Item 3.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Pulling 3, okay. Does anybody else want to stand down any reports? No? Okay, then I will call the question…call the question on the consent Items 1 and 2. 1 is first call and 2 is proposed land drainage, yes. All those in favour? Anybody opposed? That is carried. Thank you. To introduce Report No. 3 on moving forward with the North End Sewage Plant phase 3 project – nutrient removal.

Item 3 – New Capital Project for NEWPCC Upgrade – Nutrient Removal Facilities

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. I would hope we could all support this. I pulled this for two reasons. It is…it is one of the first steps…Councillor Browaty used the expression, I don't know whether I want to go down that road. This is a long road. We may not want to go down it eventually. At this stage we are required by provincial statute to go down the…this road with phosphorus and nitrogen removal. This is a first step down a billion-dollar pathway. So, we will, obviously, have further reports and more work to do on this. I did want to pull it, also. Somebody asked me not long ago what they thought former Mayor Bowman's legacy would be and I said, well, at least two things; he is the greatest track and field mayor in the history of the city, as you'll appreciate, Madam Speaker. But more…more importantly, we've got (inaudible) and we are well underway on phase one of North End, that's probably nearly completion. And we've got funding on phase two. So, having been here for a decade plus where we spent a lot of years, frankly, not going anywhere on the North End Sewage Treatment Plant, it is, to the former mayor's credit, that we got hundreds of millions of dollars allocated from the other two levels of government and we are…we are going. So, that will…that will not be done during the life of this council. Phase one will, phase two biosolids will not. But it's an extremely important initiative for the future of the city that I wanted to…you know, that is part of the former mayor's legacy. It's not widely noted, but it is extremely important and was the number one priority in our capital plan from December of 2019. So, so moved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All right. Do I have anybody who would like to speak, Mr. Speaker or Mr. Clerk?

Clerk: Councillor Wyatt. Councillor Wyatt.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Councillor Wyatt, please go ahead.

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah, I'd like just to say a few words. This is one of probably the largest projects we have underway and will be having underway in the near future. We are borrowing tens of millions for this. I guess I just want to put on the record some concerns and just to highlight…and I don't know if it has changed since I was here before, but when I had been briefed by staff before they took me through the project. I asked them, you know, what level of bio removal and nutrient removal, you know, and I said, can you give me an example of where such a plant exists in Canada. They say, such a plant does not exist in Canada. Can you give me example of where it exists, then? The only place at that time that it existed was in Washington, D.C. We were building a bio removal, nutrient removal plant, which was not just a Cadillac, it was a Lamborghini. And I don't know if that is still the case, but I question that if we are still going down that road. Frankly, the nutrient removal, as we know, what we contribute to the overall problem. And you know, I just want to put some facts on the table. The fact is that we know that the majority of the nutrients that feed into Lake Winnipeg are not from the city of Winnipeg. The vast majority are actually from outside the city of Winnipeg. They're actually from agriculture and agriculture-related activities and other communities in the Red River valley basin. We contribute a small percentage and yet, we are being asked to make probably one of the…making the largest investment in terms of nutrient removal when it comes to mitigating the impact on Lake Winnipeg. One does not have to be a rocket scientist to understand the impact that agricultural has had on Lake Winnipeg in the last 30 years. The policies and the economic development policies of the Province of Manitoba of the last 30 years to aggressively increase their ILO operations, intensive livestock operations, largely that of hogs has seen hog produce…activity in this province go up to as high as 9 to 10 million a year. Finishing a hog, as they call it, I learned more about (inaudible) Weston hogs when an (inaudible) debate happened than

I ever cared to. But I can tell you right now that a full-sized hog produces the same equivalent waste as 30 human beings. That means that 10 million hogs, that's the equivalent of having 300 million people in southern Manitoba. Now, most of that waste goes into lagoons, lagoons that are not exactly the…that wonderful at removing waste. And then, they off-load whatever is left from the lagoon into the riverways and waterways. And then, when we have our…and then some of the waste is spread on the land, injected on the land, sprayed on the land. And then, when we have our floods, which have been numerous in the last number of decades, all of that water, those nutrients go rushing right into Lake Winnipeg. Not to mention the fact…not to mention the phosphorus, the nitrates that farmers today legally can spread on their land for the production of food and food production that in…growing their crops in the province of Manitoba. Not to mention south of the border in Minnesota and in North Dakota. So, you know, I guess I want to put these facts on the record because we are spending…we have a project here, I don't think it's moved from 1.8 billion, but we're probably well beyond that. I would like to know if we are still building that facility to the Lamborghini standard, which we really don't need unless we want some engineers to win some awards. And we are spending more than anyone else out there when it comes to doing their fair share. We really need to stand up. And it's great that the previous mayor made this a priority, but he should have also stood up to the agricultural interests and the powerful lobby groups that exist in this province and in the other states south of the border and stood up to them and said, no, you are going to pay your fair share towards the removal of nutrients going to Lake Winnipeg. And percentage-wise, based on what we are spending, they should be spending 10 billion plus based on what their contributions. But that is not happening, Madam Speaker. Instead of the taxpayers of Winnipeg, more specifically the ratepayers of Winnipeg, the water and waste ratepayers of Winnipeg, are being hosed because of a lack of courage from I don't care who is in power over on Broadway, whether it be the NDP or the Conservatives, to stand up to the interests of an industry which is extremely powerful, that influences policymakers and that refuses to pay their fair share of the nutrients going to lake. Another example where we could actually have a greater impact, anywhere estimated from 6 to 14% reduction in nutrients going to Lake Winnipeg, is the restoration of Netley Marsh. Netley Marsh has been described as the kidneys of Lake Winnipeg. They have been destroyed in the last 100 years because of human activity, yet there is an opportunity to bring back Netley Marsh. It's now turned into, basically, Netley lake. Bringing back Netley Marsh as an active, operating marsh could reduce the impact of 6 to 14%...as high as 14% the nutrients going into Lake Winnipeg. Far more than what our treatment plant could ever do. Not to mention, it does it for free. It doesn't cost us. Once we restore Netley Marsh, it doesn't (inaudible) it doesn't have an annual operating cost that this is…operating facility's going to have where tens of million of dollars to operate it on a go-forward basis. A permanent cost to the ratepayers of the citizens of Winnipeg. So, yeah, you know what, I understand by the licensing requirements this all happened. I remember when the…it was prior to I was elected to, I think it was 2000 or 2001 when the valve burst at the North End treatment plant and tens of thousands rushed into the river…hundreds of gallons…thousands…tens of thousands of gallons rushed into the river and then all of a sudden, you had Terry Duguid and the environment commission and a big report. And at that time, to Duguid's credit, he actually did recommend that it should be one-third, one-third, one-third. I remember the minister at the time was Steve Ashton, he was absolutely furious with Duguid, who he had appointed, by the way, to be chair of the commission, who had put in the one-third, one-third, one-third on the governments. To Terry Duguid's credit, he insisted on that. He said, no, it should…the City can't do this alone. But this goes back to then. And yet, it's not…if you think about it, you know, unfortunately, when it comes to the hog industry and the farmers, there's not a valve that burst. It just kind of flows over time. There's not a red flag that happens that all of a sudden hits the newspapers. It's just there. And yet, their contribution; ten times, 100 times, way more than ours…20 times more than ours, to the problem that is happening now. And we all know what is going to happen. We all know from science what's going to happen. It's happened elsewhere. One day we're going to wake up, based on what's happened in other lakes, and it was a shock that happens literally overnight, and Lake Winnipeg will be dead. Literally, every fish will rise to the surface because of the overloading of the nutrients, like that. And it's happened in lakes across the world. And they will be pointing to Winnipeg. No, we need to educate and continue to educate the public and lobby the Province and as far as I'm concerned, our…the other jurisdictions who are in the watershed of the Red River valley that they are a bigger part of the problem than we are. Way more bigger part of the problem we are and yet, they are paying absolutely nothing. I believe that, yeah, it's good news we are doing this, but to what extent are we having to do it in terms of the type of plant that's going forward. What is the real number when it comes to the overall cost and….

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Councillor Wyatt, are you concluding or?

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah. Almost done.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Did I hear somebody move extension?

Councillor Wyatt: Councillor…Councillor Schreyer.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of a two-minute extension?

Councillor Wyatt: You know, we're almost…the reality is, Madam Speaker, we…you know, we can continue to go down this road, but I would like to know what the real number is, also. 1.8 billion is what we've been…you know, where are we

going to in terms of the future? What is the real…let's sort that out and maybe this will assist us in the future phases. But hopefully it will. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Wyatt. Mr. Clerk, I'm assuming Mr. Schreyer would like to speak?

Clerk: Yes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All right.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you. How did…how did he know? You know, I will tell you something, Councillor Wyatt is back. You know, in my first term I got to sit here, and I have to admit, I spoke more often because of his speeches. I was just inspired to say something. In this case, you know what? Everybody sooner or later blows me away. And once again, Councillor Wyatt did. He didn't necessarily things I wanted to hear, but boy, facts are facts. Whoa, no, I mean, I've got to double check a couple of things. But having said that, I know what he is getting at in terms of comparative magnitudes. Humans to pigs and the effect of our environment. This is reality…this is reality. When we're spending this much money on phosphorus, when in fact we're spending this much money, the City, and we have a disproportionate amount of pressure on us and obligation on us on the…on the environment. Having said that, there's…there's two parts of this. We have…because we are the biggest city along the Red River from Minnesota to Lake Winnipeg. We're it. We're the big one as an urban entity in terms of…so therefore, what we can do as an organizational entity by virtue of spending tax dollars to do something planned like what we can do with our sewage treatment plant. Well, there's nothing like it. So, so there is pressure on us because no…there is no other group of people along the Red River that can do what we can do. And we are the big one by population, but we are further upstream…sorry, downstream and we are not creating this. He made the point; he might be off on degree in terms of terms, but he is essentially true. And we can't forget that. And we can't forget…we can forget. It's like it's all about us. It is not. As consumers, you know, right. So, then the question is, makes me wonder, because he is saying we are going to pay. We're going to pay and I guess as the taxpayers get hosed – good pun, and he also said that as ratepayers. But the issue is then…okay, so I've got to ask the question, (inaudible) three levels of government involved. But then he says, well, what about the private sector? What about those industries? Are they…are we going…therefore, are we going to pay as consumers because the private sector has to make their payments? Therefore, as consumers, we'll pay. Or are the municipals governments going to involved, so…south of Winnipeg along the Red River valley? Or will it be the provincial…Provincial Government? Thus, it will be taxes as well if it's not the municipal government. What are the role of the municipal governments south of us? And then Minnesota and North Dakota when it comes to this? Because we can't solve this ourselves. We are a small part of this. But we have to admit that in proportion to our resources, we can accomplish more than anybody else. That's true. There's a certain efficiency of being a city, kind of thing. So, look, I mean, heeding Councillor Wyatt's points, once again, given a little history lesson in terms of how we got here with the other levels of government. And don't forget, I mean, you know, even if we are off on percentages here when we say is it 30…30…30 to 1 in terms of discharge from pigs compared to humans. Okay, well, look, you can't ignore this stuff. And we can't…not in this province because we're a…we're a meat exporter, we're a meat producer. Pork is our specialty. They say beef in Alberta, pork in Manitoba. That's a fact, you know. In the States, you know, when they see us come…

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Councillor…Councillor Schreyer, only focus in on the hog poop, not the actual end product or is it the product that comes out of the end?

Councillor Schreyer: Good question, Deputy Speaker, which is the end product. In the end, it's a circle. And that is how the environment works, that's how the economy works, that's how our system works. So, what goes around comes around, et cetera, et cetera. Yay, into the future. And that's what we have to think about here. So, this is an excellent, excellent conversation. Excellent debate. Don't forget the comparative magnitudes given the industry we have south of Winnipeg. And sort of, we've got to deal with that because people do believe somehow, I have heard it, and it's wrong. Because you can't make right decisions with false information. If people think Winnipeg is the biggest polluter, well then, we're going to be off on a tangent thinking, oh, if Winnipeg does at least solve something. No, we have showed leadership. And we have done the best with the efficiency of the resources that a city can do. (inaudible) going to be hard to do in the rural area, the river valley south of us. But Councillor Wyatt makes the biggest point that he makes, I feel, is that we all sort of have to stand up…well, we have to stand up for reality because it's all…it's our common reality as it is our common future. If we start pretending it's this or that, well, then we're going to make the wrong decisions and we're not going to solve our ecological and economic challenges, which are dire. And if it wasn't, why are we spending this much money on our water…on a sewage plant? That is proof of how important these things are because it is the most…the largest project in the history of the city as the city budget. And there is your proof. But it's a lot bigger than us. And some could say 20 times bigger than us because we are only responsible for 5% depending on what you're talking about, 5%. So, there you go. This is a lot bigger than we are. So, if we're saying we want…we're going to spend our money, charge…tax Winnipeggers to this extent because we want to make a difference and we know we're only maybe…we're less than 10% of the problem, we better stand up. We better stand up to certain interests. And we better stand up for everybody. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Schreyer. Mr. Clerk, is there anybody else who wishes to speak?

Clerk: No further speakers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No further speakers, then I will leave it to the Chairperson, Councillor Mayes…Chairperson Mayes to close and maybe explain about phase two and who paid for what.

Councillor Mayes: I will try to match the eloquence of the preceding speakers. Seems like only yesterday Terry Duguid was around these halls talking about…oh wait, it was actually only yesterday that Terry Duguid was here. Yes, Terry's had a good long run. And indeed, part of Councillor Wyatt is…and he's still going. Still going. But yes, authored that report when he was the commissioner back in…20 years or so ago. All of these comments are worth debating. They are all worth debating when we get a little further down the road on this, I think. It is a valid debate. It's a billion-dollar project, probably more the way things tend to run over. Phase one closing in on completion. We would have had to have done anyway regardless to quote Moira Geer, "Even if the lake could suddenly become magically clean and free, we still would have had to do phase one." Phase two with the biosolids project, we needed to do or face the prospect of saying no to any commercial or residential development as of 2030. So, we've got the dynamic women of wastewater there; Paetkau and Wiebe working away on that. So, I am pretty confident we'll…we'll get that project up and running and done probably by 2030. This is a bigger ticket item. Councillor Wyatt and Councillor Schreyer raised some good points. This isn't all of our doing. This is…there is an agricultural component to this. There are other people feeding in. That debate will have to come. Right now, we are doing what we are required to do. But yeah, there will be a big debate to come. I did think when Councillor Wyatt left these shores in 2018, I would not have to listen to commentary about the Netley Marshes again, but…and as it turned out, Councillor Browaty, I think, got some money into one of our budgets for a pilot project. Thank you to Councillor Rollins for reminding me of that pilot project on using the Netley Marshes for clean up. So, commendable work there by Councillor Browaty. So, yeah, that's not been forgotten. There's a pilot project underway there. This…I mean, this report that's in front of you today is starting in…is it a Lamborghini? I don't know, because this is the multi-million-dollar planning development phase. Councillor Santos asked an excellent question at committee which is, this is under capital? This is a…this is a capital expense? It's like, procurement, it's a study of procurement, what is up with that? Good response by the staff saying, we have all this money in the reserve, we are having to spend it. It shows the hugeness of the project when you're spending this much to get the planning done for the procurement. So, massive expense. Will we go there? To be determined, I guess. We'll have that debate a little further down the road. If Ms. Wiebe or Ms. Paetkau really would launch into a long discussion, the words 'digester capacity' would come up and there'd be a lot of technical stuff about how we may still have to, at least some portion of this, just cause we're a growing city, but that's a debate for another day. But yeah, happy to have…the current Mayor has certainly been a supporter as we've gone forward on CSO work and on phase one and phase two at North End to be continued on this. We will have to have that debate. Some good points have been raised. It is different, the different phases, but yeah, this is a billion dollar plus commitment, so it will deserve some good debate. Thank you.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Chairperson. So, I will call the question then. All those in favour? Is there anybody opposed? That is carried. Thank you. Mr. Clerk, was there any motions regarding Water, Waste and Environment?

Clerk: No motions, no by-laws.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No motions, no by-laws. I hadn't noticed that. So then, we'll move into question period for Chairperson of Water, Waste and Environment. Do we have, Mr. Clerk, anybody who would like to ask a question?

Clerk: Councillor Chambers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Councillor Chambers, please proceed.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER, WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Chambers: Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker, and through you to the Chair of Water and Waste, my ward of St Norbert, specifically the area of St. Norbert has been significantly impacted with respect to development of multi-family dwellings. On the basis that the property is there but the capacity of the sewer and water is not, even though that St. Norbert is not part of the combined sewer district. Previously, Water and Waste had indicated that they were doing flow studies to determine, you know, how much snow melts and peak hours of usage of things like showers and toilets, you know, whether it's at the morning, whether it's at dinnertime, things like that to determine exactly what the capacity or current capacity is for development in that area and as a result, there have been some allocations of units for developers

for them to do some development in the area but other developers have been told that there is no capacity unless they put in a new pipe. What I'm asking, Deputy Speaker through you to the Chair, is if the information in terms of the flow studies that were completed by water and waste could be shared to confirm how they reached their determination in terms of the allocation of units for developers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Councillor Chambers. Mr. Chairperson.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you for the question. I can certainly follow up with the staff to see if that that particular work has been done. You'll remember that Councillor Gillingham I think championed and Councillor Lukes too I think championed the idea of some sort of study of capacity city wide. What's left where that has not been completed that work is on-going we'll need to get that study done at some point because compared to ten years ago when this almost never came up, this often now comes up people saying well I bought his land but I can't go cuz the staff are saying I can't build whereas across the street they could and it's a different pipe and I've seen this play out in my ward, seen it play out in your ward probably played out in most if not all wards. And it isn't just the combined sewer which is a limit…it's of own sort, it's areas like River Park south, St. Norbert where they're not on the combined sewer but their running out of capacity. So yeah I can certainly ask (inaudible) Councillor Wyatt, in fact, when he was in the private sector had a client who originally was told they could have six units then a few years passed then they were told by staff yeah, you can have three units so round and round it went to the different appeals committees, so yeah it's certainly an issue I think we're all aware of now, on the particular St. Norbert one, yeah, I can certainly ask the staff where that stands with the flows study.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, do you have a follow up?

Councillor Chambers: Yeah, second question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No preamble.

Councillor Chambers: Yes, thank you, and through you Deputy Speaker to the Chair, can we get this expedited as it is impacting on development and potential revenue to the City of Winnipeg.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Chairperson.

Councillor Mayes: What's the "this' in that sentence? Sorry, which study are we talking about?

Councillor Chambers: The flow studies that have been initiated to determine exactly what the capacity is and the allocation of units for developers who are developing in certain areas of the city.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There's a report that we are still working on in terms of have we got that capacity report?

Councillor Mayes: I mean I think there were some challenges with when that went out to the…there's a tender to try to get people to bid on it so I think staff are looking at that. I can certainly try to get some information on that some sort of update as to where that stands. It's very much a live issue we do get pretty good reports on both finance and water and waste get reports on progress on South End Plant and progress on North End Plant and something we've only started doing in recent years, I think CSO updates and were accelerating that work of course, yeah this issue of what, how much room is left where isn't just a CSO, it's beyond that now. So yes, we can sort of try and get an update on where that stands.

Councillor Chambers: And last question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Final Question?

Councillor Chambers: And specifically, again Deputy Speaker through you to the Chair, what's…proponents are looking for is the actual work that was done the actual calculations based on these flow studies that would lead them to the allocation of units for their development.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. Chair.

Councillor Mayes: Yeah, I meant there are a number of ways forward here. We've had a number of motions I think, I think Councillor Schreyer had moved a study on grey water feasibility so that there's certainly options for the City in addition to just getting a report that says there's this much room left in in various parts of the city, it's not even…it's so…it's very granular, West side of St. Anne's, there's room left in the pipe right, East side there isn't. That kind of thing. North side of Bellevue, we say no. South side of Bellevue, we say yes from the staff. Very confusing if you're a developer I'm sure, so ah and then are there options we are willing to consider we have that I think we're getting a report back on the

grey water and the complexities of allowing that so yeah it's certainly a live issue in the development industry combined with the…that whole clause 8 with CSO and the province essentially saying yes, go ahead and build because it's cancelled out by the savings you're doing elsewhere and then the net effect of that, so a lot… certainly look forward to getting that report.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Chairperson. Mr. Clerk, is there any other councillors wishing to ask a question of the chair?

Clerk: No further questions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No further questions? Then I will pass the Chair back to our most excellent speaker, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Next committee is Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated January 9th, 2023. Councillor Rollins to introduce the reports.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
DATED JANUARY 9, 2023

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I want to advise that Item No. 6 on the agenda has been referred back to the EPC committee to the February 20…by the EPC committee to the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee. And then, I want to introduce the reports and move adoption of the consent agenda. I'm going to pull No. 1, move 2 and 5 and 7 to 10, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: You pulled 6 as well?

Councillor Rollins: I can. Yeah. 6 had already…

Madam Speaker: Okay, no. Councillor…thank you.

Councillor Rollins: Clarified. Sorry, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Wyatt? Councillor Browaty?

Councillor Browaty: Madam Speaker, I just want declare a conflict on Item No. 9 and acknowledge that I did vote on it not realizing the conflict at EPC last week.

Madam Speaker: Okay, thank you.

Councillor Wyatt: I have to declare a conflict on item…Items 6 and 7.

Councillor Rollins: Okay, so we've pulled No. 6, Madam Speaker. So, my colleague's fine. 7, I can pull.

Madam Speaker: Are there any others to be pulled? Okay, we'll leave…we'll do that in a moment. So, we've got 1 pulled and 6 and 7 and 9 we will deal with separately. Actually, yeah, 6 is not here, it was referred back already to EKT. So, it's just for information there. Okay. Yes?

Councillor Eadie: (inaudible) is the heritage designation for the West Kildonan Library on this agenda?

Madam Speaker: It is not.

Councillor Eadie: Because that decision's already made by Property and Development. Okay. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Okay. So, we will deal with…I'll call the question on 2 through 5, 8, and 10. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Item 7, just a moment. Councillor Wyatt will depart. He has a conflict on Item 7, as he's declared.

Clerk: Item 1 – Amendments to vacant buildings…Item 7?

Item 7 – Extension of Time – Subdivision and Rezoning – 228 and 230 Grassie Boulevard – DASZ 31/2020

Madam Speaker: Thank you. We will come back to Item 1 after. Councillor Rollins, your opportunity to introduce the item, Item 7.

Councillor Rollins: You know there's…you know, other than…let's vote, Madam Speaker. I can…I can read out Item 7 is subdivision and re-zoning for 228, 230 Grassie.

Madam Speaker: Any other speakers on the item? Seeing no close, I'll call the question, Item 7. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. Shall we will deal with…deal with 9 now or 1? We'll deal with Item 9 momentarily. Councillor Browaty has declared a conflict…possible conflict for that item. Item 9, it is a zoning agreement amendment – 685 St. Mary's Road. We'll just wait a moment. Councillor Wyatt is coming back to the chamber. Following that, then we'll deal with Item 1. Okay, all right, No. 9, Councillor Rollins. Mr. Clerk.

Item 9 – Zoning Agreement Amendment – 685 St. Mary's Road – ZAA 4/2022

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins, do you wish to introduce the item?

Councillor Rollins: So moved with…Madam Speaker. With thanks to Property and Development Standing Policy Committee.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers on this item? No? No. 9. Seeing none, I'll call the question. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried.

Item 1 – Amendments to the Vacant Buildings By-law No. 79/2010

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins to introduce the item.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. There are currently 683 vacant or derelict buildings registered in Winnipeg. And from April to December, 2022, there were 74 fires in the vacant buildings, Madam Speaker. If a vacant building sets fire, the owner in…what's before us today will be responsible for covering the fees for the district chief, the driver and resources such as pumpers and aerial ladders, Madam Speaker. These fees will be in addition to really good work that Council did, same by-law, on the boarded building permit fees and annual FD building fees for which vacant building owners are responsible. This is policy, Madam Speaker, we augmented last term. And I'm proud of the former members of Protection, Community Services and Parks for doing so. These by-law amendments are thoughtful amendments. They require owners to pay for costs for the fires. We treat them, Madam Speaker, as if they were from out of town with the same rates that were always in the by-law. Madam Speakers, there are some exception and I want to acknowledge the student that was scrumming the Mayor this aft, the cre com student who wanted further clarification. And this is for you, Madam Speaker, through you; that fires originating from unrelated arson and that would be the case of an arson that is next door that jumps on to your roof, Madam Speaker, which happens from time to time or an unrelated arson, let's say, if a garbage bin is set fire. That sort of thing. There is another exception for natural disasters, lightning sometimes strikes. There are sometimes weather events like we saw in the fall where trees fell on to wires falling on to garages, et cetera. And…and of course, collisions from vehicles where sometimes they set fire. So, this is a thought…these are thoughtful amendments that takes into account some serious exceptions, but the goal of imposing fire protection fees on property owners is to encourage them to protect their buildings and really return them to the housing market. And I want building owners to do the right thing, Madam Speaker; securing their buildings and putting them into use because we are in a housing crisis, Madam Speaker. And vacant buildings we know through those stats from 2022 alone and unfortunately, we have experienced back-to-back weekends here with multiple fires, Madam Speakers, in vacancies. Even since…remarkable since this was introduced at Council, right? At standing policy committee and more. So, we want building owners to do the right thing. We want them to secure their buildings, we want them to put them into use, not only because we are in a housing crisis, but we see vacancy as sometimes, often correlated with derelict and blight. So, this tough as nails on vacant building is going to continue. And there is more to do, but this is an important step. That is why this motion passed unanimously at the Standing Policy Committee of Property and Development, Madam Speaker. That is why I think with your help, it is going to pass unanimously this afternoon. And I open that way, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Madam Chair. Next speaker, Councillor Gilroy, followed by Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of this. I think it's no secret that I've been putting on a series of motions through Council to help deal vacant and boarded up buildings and the fires that we're having inside these buildings. And this is just another…another layer of protection we can do, actually, to make sure that our landlords

are doing what they can to make sure that they put housing stock back into the market, which is really critical right now in terms of not having enough affordable housing. But also, to make sure that we are dealing with the fines, our fees, that we are…that we are making sure that our landlords are paying for those fees. I think it's critical to know that some of these fees do go to collection agencies and we don't get that money back. The City isn't recouping that money. And it's really critical that we make sure that when we are putting these fees to the landlords that we are collecting that. And so, I am glad that we are looking at maybe putting it onto the property tax which I think is critical. We know that those taxes are being paid, so we know that we're going to recoup those fees. It costs money when we have fire…fire trucks go down there. It costs money when we have policing go down there. And it costs money when our by-law officers go down there. So, we need to make sure that we are recouping some of that money and making sure that it is put on the property tax bill is the one way we can do that instead of it going to collections agency, Madam Speaker. So, I am really glad to see this motion and wanted to say that here and now because I know that they are working on a series of motions and that is my hope for these. So, thank you, Madam Speaker and thank you for the committee for putting this forward. I think this will do really, really good in inner-city neighbourhoods where we are seeing a lot of fires, Madam Speaker, in our vacant buildings. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Gilroy. Next is Councillor Eadie, followed by Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I rise…I am in support of this motion. But as I speak to it, it was just alluded to, there are other steps that the City needs to take towards dealing with the vacant and derelict buildings. Many of them…the majority of them are residential properties. However, I will point out there are some commercial buildings. I have one that is an ongoing menace over at Euclid and Main. And I am sure there's others around. And you've heard of some of the…even some warehouses in the Dufferin industrial and the Dufferin neighbourhoods and Lord Selkirk neighbourhoods. Difficult, although, it's really hard to find warehouse space, but I digress from what…the way I'd like to speak to this. So, so ultimately, there are a number of reasons we have vacant, derelict residential properties, Madam Speaker, and even commercial properties. Many of the cases are in our older neighbourhoods where the homes need like…they need like $100,000 renovations to bring them back into the rental market if that is where they were or they're…I don't know how many seniors in the 90s are left in the North End, but Madam Speaker, there is a large number of seniors who have these very old housing stock. And if you'll…you'll notice where most of these vacant derelict buildings, most of them are happening, they're in our very old neighbourhoods. And Madam Speaker, we…actually, since 1999, if you want to read my article…and actually, the mid '90s, we had just as many vacant derelict buildings in 1999 as we do in 2000...well, I just heard the newest number, thanks to the Chairperson for bringing that forward. It is a little more than there was in 1999, but not that many more since 1999. We brought in a whole bunch of by-laws. This is what I call the citizenship relation…citizenship related things. Private property owners have rights but they also have responsibilities and duties as citizens. And I say if you are a…if you own a property in this city, whether you live in it or not, you must undertake and deal with these properties as if you were a properly acting citizen and follow the by-laws, follow the rules. Now, there is another methodology and we have done some of this since 1999, Madam Speaker, where we use a stewardship perspective in that this city, in conjunction with the Province and others over the years, we have provided stewardship related things to help the owners of these properties get renovations done so that they are livable because some of these places weren't rentals when they ended up going vacant. Some of them were personal homes. Some of these newer ones that come on, we just went through the COVID, there's a whole bunch of people who financially experienced it. And we know, we heard through the homeless numbers all through COVID-19, people were losing homes. And they were homeless over…living in encampments, Madam Speaker. So, ultimately, we need to say where these vacant derelict properties exist, there is a need for homes and further steps that we need to take. We can do this. We're going to end up, actually, owning more through tax sale now with the fire bill going on to the property taxes. For many of them, we're going to end up with these properties and own in them in our portfolio. And Madam Chairperson…through you, Speaker; Madam Chairperson, we need to demand of the ownership, management of the properties that we have that are vacant or whatever, that they must be taken care at the same level as we expect the citizens…citizenship methodology to deal with them. So, we hope that…and these are things that we need to progress and we need to examine. As I constantly say, our 2023 budget is difficult because we have decay, we want growth and decay and our four-year budget's going to be difficult. Let's hope, Madam Speaker, that we can balance and provide better stewardship, methodologies to ensure that even a property doesn't end up vacant and derelict. And then, you know, we need to change by-laws to say, if there is a house we know it's going to get set on fire, like almost every one of our vacant derelict houses in Dufferin neighbourhood have almost all been set on fire now. Like, caught fire. So, Madam Speaker, we at some point have to say, rip down a very dangerous building to the neighbours. We just heard if somebody else's house burns down because of something that happened to a vacant derelict, we're not…we're not doing that and charging them the fees, Madam Speaker, because like, I mean, you don't want to victimize a victim any more than they're already victimized, right, Madam Speaker? So, I think this is an important step and the conditions are there as was pointed out that people won't end up with a bill on their taxes. But again, the sooner we either rip them down or get them repaired, whether it's the private owner…and remember, a lot of these people who own these houses, they inherited a house that in really bad shape and they don't have money themselves. Like, where's the horoshi coming from? If you can't borrow money, where is the horoshi coming from to fix the house? Where? It just doesn't…Madam Speaker, you can't get a loan or mortgage for $100,000 to renovate your

house. My house needs $120,000, it's 100 years old. I've got to find $120,000 to renovate it. So, like, Madam Speaker, these are not simple things. This is putting citizenship responsibilities through by-law on property owners, especially the ones who do already have the means to get it…these homes either back on the market or redeveloped, whatever it is. And this will inspire those people to do that if they've got to pay these big bills. But I have to say again, I think we're going to end up with more of these vacant derelict properties as a result of tax sale. And we need to figure out how to be good stewards, the City itself, to help steward these buildings or new buildings, whatever it is going to be, into becoming valuable important properties to the neighbourhoods in which they exist. And again, most of it's in our really old neighbourhoods. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Eadie. Next is Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. I take no credit whatsoever for this one. I do appreciate Councillor Rollins' work and the committee. And…but I do remember former Councillor Klein talking to me about this. He'd be quite interested and animated about it. So, I don't know how it all got started, I don't know what the discussions were at the committee, but I did just want to note that our former colleague, certainly, I remember it was quite engaged on this one, quite passionate about it. So, I just wanted to note that I am sure it will pass today. I'm certainly supporting it. But some good work done by the committee members present and past to move this forward. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Mayes. Councillor Rollins, back to you for close.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I want to thank, again, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development: Monsieur Allard, Councillor Shawn Dobson and Councillor Evan Duncan. I also want to thank my colleague, Councillor Gilroy. Really, an excellent ally to not only her neighbourhood, but other neighbourhoods and in her words, putting housing stock back into the market has to be the focus. Madam Speaker, Councillor Eadie, there are other steps to be considering here including, and I take his words to heart, Madam Speaker, the basic affordability being really key and understanding that not all wards are created equal in terms of basic affordability and housing costs and renovation costs and our residents' ability to pay. Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't recall Councillor Mayes' last term and the enthusiasm. For sure I recall Councillor Klein's enthusiasm for this issue, but I require…I remember then Councillor Gillingham in the hallway putting pen to paper and playing such an instrumental role in policy change, something super-elegant that I don't think we're talking about enough. The instrument that saw vacant derelict building fines and fees go up for sure, but a percentage of those going right in to the housing rehabilitation reserve. And that is an elegant stroke of the pen, Madam Speaker, because every resident who sees our vacancies in their neighbourhood draws a direct correlation to the housing crisis and says what a shame. And so, it's the stroke of the pen that of then Councillor Gillingham that really ties that together for us. The modest renovation grant that that housing reserve then does in housing improvement zones like William Whyte neighbourhood that Councillor Eadie, you know, speaks about quite often. The issues that he outlined, Madam Speaker, I want to commit right now, there is more to do. And I am absolutely leaning in to some of these, including greater transparency with neighbourhood partners. They want to know what the size and scope of vacant buildings are and how can you…you can't measure what you…you know, you are not seeing. And so, we need to change. I am really screwing up that line, Madam Speaker, but we need to be better brokers with our neighbourhoods and be more transparent on the vacant housing stock that we have and the risk that's before us. The demo permits that Councillor Eadie spoke of, Madam Speaker, the taking title and when we do, adhering to our own liveability by-laws, adhering to our own by-laws for boarding up for empty buildings and more, Madam Speaker. So, I don't think I am alone in leaning in to that. The standing policy committee members, we discussed it there. And I do think it's work that is shared between, you know, the standing policy committee that I am honoured to hair and that of Protection, Community Services and Parks. So, Madam Speaker, look forward to holding hands with Councillor Orlikow once more and coming before Council with more on this. But in the meantime, I want to see, you know, the bottom line for, I think, all of us is that building owners are doing the right thing, securing their buildings and putting them into use and that's the highest, best use for Winnipeg. Thank you, Madam Speaker. So moved.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. All in favour? Contrary? That is carried. We'll now move in to by-laws under this committee. Councillor Wyatt?

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS - 1ST READING ONLY

Councillor Wyatt: I need to declare a conflict, Madam Speaker, for By-law No. 8/2023.

Councillor Rollins: We could do that one first, but that's the third one.

Madam Speaker: Okay, let's do that one first. Madam…Madam Chair.

Councillor Rollins: Okay, I move By-law No. 8/2023 be read a first time, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? That's carried. If we could just pause. Go ahead.

Clerk: By-law No. 8/2023.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr…Councillor Wyatt could come back to the chamber now. It…that…it's only first reading on that particular one.

Councillor Rollins: We've got a few first readings. Would you like me to start on By-law 140/2022?

Madam Speaker: Go ahead.

Councillor Rollins: Okay. Madam Speaker, I move the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 140/2022. Do we want to do the…run the full list? By-law No. 7/2023, By-law No. 9/2023, and By-law No. 10/2023. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law Nos. 140/2022, 7/2023, 9/2023, and 10/2023.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Madam Chair, the next section.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS - 2ND AND 3RD READINGS

Councillor Rollins: Thank you. I move that By-law No. 83/2022 be read a second time, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 83/2022.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-law No. 83/2022 be read a third time and that the same be passed and order to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, I move that the following by-laws be read a first time: By-law No. 4/2023, By-law No. 5/2023, By-law No. 6/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 4/2023, 5/2023, and 6/2023.

Madam Speaker: Madam Chair.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-laws No. 4/2023, 6/2023, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 4/2023 to 6/2023, both inclusive, be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 4/2023 to 6/2023, both inclusive.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. We'll now move in to question period under this committee. Any questions for our hair, Councillor Rollins? Any questions? Seeing none, next committee, Standing Policy Committee on Community Services. Councillor Orlikow on the report dated January 11th.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES DATED JANUARY 11, 2023

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to move Items 1, 2 and 3, please.

Madam Speaker: Consent has been moved. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We have Motion 2 before us. Moved by Councillor Gilroy and seconded by Councillor Rollins. It's regarding a hookah use in dining and beverage rooms. It's an automatic referral to the standing committee. Motion 5 is a notice of motion. Moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Allard. It's regarding a referral to the Winnipeg Police Board. It will appear on next Council's agenda in February.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES MOTIONS

Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Rollins,

WHEREAS hookah lounges have become popular in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS many other municipal and provincial governments are looking into specific requirements for establishments that serve hookah on their premises;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Manitoba and City of Winnipeg should be reviewing existing best practices and working together to ensure the health and safety for patrons and employees of hookah lounges;

AND WHEREAS research that shows that both tobacco and non-tobacco hookah use may expose users and bystanders to hazardous levels of air pollutants, including elevated levels of carbon monoxide;

AND WHEREAS Many of the Hookah lounges are open after hours for parties and events and there are no regulations over seeing these venues and ensuring the safety of those visiting, working and or living near to hookah lounges;

AND WHEAREAS studies suggest that non-tobacco hookah smoke contains high levels of carcinogens, carbon monoxide and other harmful pollutants;

AND WHEREAS carbon monoxide is known as the silent killer and is very hard to detect because it is odorless, colorless and the symptoms are hard to detect in a timely manner;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Services have had to abruptly shut down hookah lounges due to high-levels of carbon monoxide in the air and concerns for the safety or patrons and workers of the establishments;

AND WHEREAS there have also been concerns with respect to the higher-than-normal carbon monoxide detected at buildings and apartments surrounding hookah lounges;

AND WHEREAS there are currently no specific requirements in place for establishments that serve hookah on their premises as the establishments are often licensed as either dining or beverage rooms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to:

1. *Conduct a jurisdictional scan of regulatory practices around hookah use in provinces and larger Canadian municipalities.*

2. *Consult with the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba to determine appropriate regulations for hookah establishments, including but not limited to:*

   A. *additional ventilation system requirements.*

   B. *licensing conditions and additional safety measures to ensure the health and safety of patrons, workers and the general public in the vicinity of hookah establishments.*

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

Motion No. 5
Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Allard,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is currently suffering from an urban health crisis, including an unacceptable level of crime that is negatively affecting our neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS on July 23, 2003, Council adopted the "Four District Model" for restructuring the Winnipeg Police Service, being four geographic districts designated as East, West, North, and Central;

AND WHEREAS the Council motion adopted on July 23, 2003, provided that the restructuring of the Winnipeg Police Service to the Four District Model would result in a number of benefits, including improved public access to the police service, increased police visibility and public interaction, and cooperative partnerships with the community;

AND WHEREAS the North, West, and East District stations are currently "CLOSED", as stated on the City of Winnipeg website, at all hours;

AND WHEREAS public accessibility to front-line Winnipeg Police Service members is critical to building safer communities and an effective model of community policing, in accordance with the original intent of the Four District Model;

AND WHEREAS all City of Winnipeg services should prioritize "customer service" to residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Winnipeg Police Board to do the following:

1. *That the North District Station at 260 Hartford Avenue, West District Station at 2321 Grant Avenue, and East District Station at 1750 Dugald Road be reopened immediately to the public on a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week service.*

2. *That each of the Four District stations maintain 24-7 walk-in service hours for the public.*

3. *That each of the Four District stations install and maintain visible outdoor signage advertising that the Four District stations are available and accessible to the public on a 24-7 basis, and that all websites and city public information be changed accordingly.*

4. *That clearly marked areas for free Visitor Parking be provided for the newer District Stations.*

5. *That financial resources and security measures be provided to ensure that any operational changes to the Four District stations' hours does not negatively impact front-line members.*

6. *That the relevant by-laws or policies of the City of Winnipeg and Council be amended accordingly.*

7. The Proper Officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Councillor Chambers: I'm wondering if that motion could be moved to the Winnipeg Police Board for discussion and deliberation.

Madam Speaker: It is a matter of procedure that it can go to this committee. And I can have the Clerk elaborate if you wish. That was the request of the movers and seconders to go to that committee.

Councillor Chamber: To Community Services?

Madam Speaker: Yes. Well, it's the nature of the…the request here. It will come back to Council. Just a moment. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah, if it's the will of the Chair of the Police Board, I have no issue with him moving suspension of the rules to have the matter referred to the Winnipeg Police Board.

Madam Speaker: So, it's an automatic referral. Or pardon me, it's a notice of motion currently. That's the way it's written. So, we're not dealing with it today. Can certainly suspend the rules to…to deal with it today. So, that would have to occur or leave it the way it is.

Councillor Eadie: Madam Speaker, I'd just like to make a point of order in that, ultimately, this motion is…requires budget dollars in order to do 24/7.

Councillor Wyatt: We are not debating the item today. So…

Madam Speaker: So, it's a notice of motion.

Councillor Chambers: Move…suspend the rules…sorry, Madam Speaker, can I suspend the rules then to have it introduced at the Winnipeg Police Board?

Madam Speaker: To be introduced today?

Councillor Chambers: To be introduced today for referral to the Winnipeg Police Board.

Madam Speaker: Then it would be another step to refer, yes. So, right now, it's a notice of motion to appear on next Council's agenda.

Councillor Chambers: But I'm…I'm request…I'm moving suspension of the rules to deal with the item today.

Madam Speaker: Are you moving suspension of the rules to deal with the item today?

Councillor Chambers: On the condition that it's referred to…

Madam Speaker: Well, there's no conditions, it's one step at a time. Okay. 5, 4.

Councillor Chambers: Well, we'll just proceed.

Madam Speaker: Okay, it's…it will be…

Councillor Chambers: I rescind my request to suspend the rules.

Madam Speaker: It will be…it's a notice of motion as it stands. And that's what I am hearing.

Councillor Allard: Point of order, Madam Speaker. In the past, when I have raised police business, the police chairperson brought it as new business as chairperson. I believe that…at that time, His Worship Mayor Gillingham was in that position and then brought forward a motion as chair of the Winnipeg Police Board. So, I think that's probably something that the Chairperson may do if the Chairperson so wishes.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. So…

Councillor Wyatt: I have no problem if the seconder is prepared to. I mean, the other option is the seconder and I can agree that this is not a notice of motion. And then, you can stand up as the Chair of Police Board can move…Councillor Chambers can then move that it be referred.

Madam Speaker: Okay, procedurally, I mean, this is not the…we don't have conversations like this. It's a notice of motion. If someone wants to suspend the rules, we'll do that. I'm moving on to the next item now.

Councillor Eadie: Madam Speaker, I rise to suspend the rules to hear this notice of motion at this particular time.

Madam Speaker: Okay, and that was moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Allard. It's Motion 5. It's a notice of motion. You've suspended the rules to hear the item today. Call for a recorded vote, we need two-thirds to hear it today. All in favour, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Eadie, and Schreyer

Nays

His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Wyatt and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma

City Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 3, Nays 13.

Madam Speaker: The suspension is lost. This motion will be on the February Council agenda. Next, we'll move in to by-laws under this committee. Councillor Orlikow

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Orlikow: Oh, that's right, there is one. Thank you, madam…Madam Chair. I move By-Laws No. 3/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-Law No. 3/2023.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Orlikow, next.

Councillor Orlikow: Sorry, I don't have my notes with me. I move that By-law No. 3/2023 be heard a second time.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-Law No. 3/2023.

Madam Speaker: Will you suspend the rules for third reading?

Councillor Orlikow: Madam Speaker, I'd like to move…suspend the rules for…to hear number three…3/2023.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We will now have question period under this committee. Questions for our chair. Councillor Schreyer

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you Madam Speaker so we've got a new program for trees upcoming we just had a press conference yesterday morning in the Mayor's Foyer which included His Worship as well as it was just yesterday that we had Terry Duguid speak on the environmental approach moving South as well regarding the federal governments' commitment and Councillor Orlikow was there. But for future reference, I just wanted to know to which chair which Committee do we ask questions on this issue in the months to come? Is it in fact Councillor Orlikow? Is it in fact his Committee?

Madam Speaker: Thank you

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you very much for you question. It was an exciting announcement yesterday and I want to thank the Federal Government especially the Parliamentary secretary Mr. Duguid, it…the program really, it's the website is up. It's Winnipeg\homegrown not home alone which I mistakenly said yesterday. Oops. So regardless of that, it's on the website there. There's actually Breanne. I think her name is she's the…she'll be running the show over at Forestry. She's more than prepared to take on questions, but it's in the…on the website, they have the site so either you as a Councillor may field calls for your residents and direct them to the website and just to re clarify there are two really streams that they can do here. It could be, you know, Joanne who says I really want to be involved in some tree planting project, but I'm an individual, I just want to, you know, do my part so they'll take that name and try to match them up with somebody in the neighborhood. Or it could be an incorporated or non-profit group that comes as a bundle like I know, for example, Councillor Santos had a church that's very excited in her ward to be involved in this. So, it may be a group and then the Forestry Department has staff now dedicated to this that will help people do the application, but also match you up between two different groups. So, if you're an individual and/or a group, go to Winnipeg\homegrown, and it's all listed out there, contact numbers, it's an interesting program and I say some of the really interesting parts about it that I've enjoyed looking at, let alone the money. They're about twenty thousand dollars per grant application, but the city will help, could be on public lands, it has to be on public lands but that could be in a park or a naturalized area ready for it? And street boulevards. They're all allowed to be in there and also where I appreciate the project came from is a lot of times as you know, Councillor Lukes has tried, made big progress and so have I. Many of us have. It's really daunting on the community themselves to figure out how far to plant them, what types of trees that should do and really the big one for us in the city and for our future investment is who's going to maintain them after, who's going to water all the plants, the trees which is really critically important to connect a tree in the ground that no one's going to water it, it's not going to make it. So, it does allow in the granting application, that there's a list of pre-approved arborists that they can also work with directly so that's the…another extra support for community organizations. So, bottom line if your confused, give me a call. I'm very excited about this. I'll help every councillor out I can, help plant trees but this…the…on the website, you see a direct line to the Forestry Department, that will be able to be the quickest way to start coordinating that. The deadline is quick for this round and the first round, but there will be more coming forward, I think it's March 1st. March 1st is another round so if you do have people who are interested, get them going but we are going to be focusing, the program focuses generally on equity issue so there will be areas of not only where there's no trees but also we want to be able to build up that capacity in the inner city areas and different underserved areas but that doesn't say places like Waverley West or River Heights can apply as well, there just going to be a little bit of a focus to try to get some more because of the community building aspect of it. And we do know we have some hot spots in the inner city where we really need to get more trees up to cool down some spaces. So pretty exciting program, I really want to give…thank the Federal Government for coming forward on this. This is on top of the other programs that we'll be seeing coming forward, Million Trees is kind of getting rolled into the home grown rollout, Home Grown Program and Million Tress Program is. But I've also set up meetings already with Trees Please and Winnipeg Trees, Trees Winnipeg or Save the Elms, Coalition to Save the Elms. So those groups are already coming on board to see how they can help out as well. So, it will be really a team effort to do this, it's a lot of trees that we can plant. There will be…some places will be small. The smaller trees, please be informed don't get worried about it. Smaller trees actually grow in our clay very well versus the bundle and gallon trees where they have a big root systems because they have a really…they take a really long time to establish because the clay is so strong here, so actually the small tress in a couple years you'll see them actually taking off past the larger trees that we have to plant, again boulevard trees will remain the larger trees though just because of the snow and salts. But the naturalized lands, river banks are another area where people may be interested in, so bottom line quick answer, long answer to a quick answer is go to the…talk to the Forestry Department. The number is there if you have people and they'll help you get the people organized.

Madame Speaker: Thank you, next speaker Councillor Lukes, question actually for the Chair.

Councillor Lukes: Sure. I've been thinking you've kind of answered it, so we all have a lot of volunteers that love to tree plant so, I guess this is the avenue that they will be going through that they can be channeled through. I guess what I'd like to see at some point is kind of the big picture plan, we've got I believe it was 7 million dollars from the Feds, more money from the Feds so I'm asking the chair will he or will is the pubic service bringing forward, here's the plan on how

we're planning to spend all this money on planting tress because I get questions all the time from people saying, you know, where are you planting is there money what can be planted. So, is there a plan a big picture plan that will be available for the public and the Councillors?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Orlikow.

Councillor Orlikow: I believe I understand what the big picture plan is. Again, it'll be part of the forestry master plan that's coming forward, the big picture plan is we already have the tree inventory so we know where we're short and where we have tress so that's going along quite well. But the big picture plan will be maybe that's what's included there. What is the City doing? I know Mayor Gillingham has expressed support for looking at pruning cycle to do that. But the big plan will be and again, Trees Please and a couple other groups to talk to you about infrastructure and how we tie that in with that. So that's another one. But I think the big plan will come through the forestry master plan. Really, we have to be focusing somehow this program's not for that, but we still need to be focusing on somehow maybe through another third-party group, we really need to be focusing on private lands. Private lands are sixty, seventy percent of our tree canopy. So, we need to figure out a way to encourage homeowners to retain trees, developers to retain trees but also how to plant more trees on the private lands. So, the big plan is yeah, get our own house in order in the public but we also need to be supporting the private.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? No further questions. Seeing none, let's move on. Before we adjourn, I would like to thank the RRC Polytech students once again for coming out today. A few of them are still with us. They have been here for the duration of the meeting. I hope you enjoyed yourself. With that, Councillor Dobson, will you move adjournment? All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Roll call, Mr. Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Madam Speaker…sorry, Mayor Gillingham, Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer, and Wyatt.

Council adjourned at 3:27 p.m.