Minute No. 359
Report – Executive Policy Committee – April 18, 2023

Item No. 5 Request to the Province of Manitoba to Amend the Police Services Act

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That the Council Motion of March 23, 2023, be received as information.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

Carried

Councillors Duncan and Wyatt asked to be recorded as having voted against the item in accordance with Rule 47(7) of the Procedure Bylaw.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 18, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That the Council Motion of March 23, 2023, be received as information.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On March 23, 2023, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Duncan,

WHEREAS in accordance with The Police Services Act, the purpose of the Winnipeg Police board is to provide:

(a) civilian governance respecting the enforcement of law, the maintenance of the public peace and the prevention of crime in the municipality; and

(b) the administrative direction and organization required to provide an adequate and effective police service in the municipality.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS in order to meet that purpose, it is imperative that the municipality has the ability to provide recommendations to the Winnipeg Police Board so that they may be considered and discussed openly by the entire board at a public meeting;

AND WHEREAS section 33 of The Police Services Act further states that, "Subject to the requirements of this Act, a Police Board may determine its own practice and procedures";

AND WHEREAS section 8(1) of the Winnipeg Police Board Rules of Practice and Procedure states that, "The secretary to the board must prepare an agenda for each regular board meeting after consultation with the board chair and the liaison officer, and in accordance with the direction of the board chair";

AND WHEREAS on February 23, 2023, Council referred a motion regarding the reopening of the District Police Stations, to the Winnipeg Police Board for consideration, and the motion was not placed on a public Winnipeg Police Board meeting agenda, and was never formally considered by the board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That Winnipeg City Council formally request the Province of Manitoba to amend The Police Services Act to mandate that the Winnipeg Police Board place Council Referrals, as well Provincial Ministerial formal requests and/or communications sent to the Winnipeg Police Board, as a separate item on their next public agenda for formal consideration and response to Council.