Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – October 17, 2023

REPORTS

Item No. 26 Establishment of a Chief Construction Officer

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That Council seek to hire a Chief Construction Officer as soon as possible, to be financed through a charge against one or more designated capital projects in any given fiscal year, with delegated authority to the Chief Financial Officer to select appropriate projects within the existing budgets.

2. That Council establish a Chief Construction Officer (CCO) Hiring Committee and through the City Council Organizational meeting establish 4 members for the committee, and direct Corporate Human Resources to assist the CCO Hiring Committee in finalizing a job description and salary range and to assist in executing a search for qualified candidates.

3. That the Chief Construction Officer Hiring Committee shall report to Council with a recommended candidate for approval no later than March 1, 2024. Council shall have access to appropriate documentation of the candidate's qualifications and references.

4. That Council direct that the Public Service prepare amendments to the Organization By-Law and submit directly to Council to create the position of Chief Construction Officer as an "Officer of Council," with reporting and accountability measures similar to those in place for Statutory Officers of Council, while acknowledging that the Chief Construction Officer position is not statutory within the City of Winnipeg Charter.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Duncan,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

The Chairperson called Councillor Lukes to the Chair in order to move the following motion:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg buys hundreds of millions of dollars worth of infrastructure work every year on behalf of residents of the City;

AND WHEREAS public sector construction management and infrastructure policy development requires high-level, strategic expertise and industry knowledge of engineering, procurement and construction practices, with consideration of complex factors like labour and skills capacity, materials supply chains, bid complexity, staging, legal risks and construction inflation;

AND WHEREAS City Council is seeking direct advice from a senior leader with construction and infrastructure management expertise to improve the speed, efficiency, delivery and maintenance of the City's overall infrastructure on a strategic level;

AND WHEREAS Mayor Gillingham committed to ask City Council to hire a "Chief Construction Officer" who would report publicly to the Mayor and Council to provide this advice and leadership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee recommend to Council:

1. That Council seek to hire a Chief Construction Officer as soon as possible, to be financed through a charge against one or more designated capital projects in any given fiscal year, with delegated authority to the Chief Financial Officer to select appropriate projects within the existing budgets.

2. That Council establish a Chief Construction Officer (CCO) Hiring Committee and through the City Council Organizational meeting establish 4 members for the committee, and direct Corporate Human Resources to assist the CCO Hiring Committee in finalizing a job description and salary range and to assist in executing a search for qualified candidates.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

3. That the Chief Construction Officer Hiring Committee shall report to Council with a recommended candidate for approval no later than March 1, 2024. Council shall have access to appropriate documentation of the candidate's qualifications and references.

4. That Council direct that the Public Service prepare amendments to the Organization By-Law and submit directly to Council to create the position of Chief Construction Officer as an "Officer of Council," with reporting and accountability measures similar to those in place for Statutory Officers of Council, while acknowledging that the Chief Construction Officer position is not statutory within the City of Winnipeg Charter.

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

Carried

His Worship Mayor Gillingham resumed the Chair.