Agenda – Council – October 26, 2023

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – October 6, 2023

Item No. 9 Permits Amnesty Program

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 17, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service re-establish the permits amnesty program, beginning January 2024 to allow homeowners to declare renovations, repairs, or other activities that were undertaken in their primary residence without proper permits, and that the associated non-compliance fees for post construction permits, be waived, upon application and payment for necessary permits for the declared project(s).

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 17, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 6, 2023, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the Council Motion of September 29, 2023, with the following amendment:

- Delete the words "amnesty program be approved" and replace with "the Winnipeg Public Service re-establish the permits amnesty program"

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

COUNCIL DECISION:

On September 29, 2023, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development:

Moved by Councillor Dobson,
Seconded by Councillor Chambers,

WHEREAS a building permit helps ensure that any work done on your home was done correctly, complies with local building codes, zoning etc.;

AND WHEREAS a homeowner may have purchased a home that had prior work done to it without any building permits being issued;

AND WHEREAS a homeowner may have performed work and not realized at the time that a building permit was required;

AND WHEREAS a homeowner may be discouraged from obtaining a building permit for previous work due to the penalties applied for work already done without a permit;

AND WHEREAS we want to encourage everyone to get building permits;

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – October 6, 2023

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an amnesty program be approved, beginning January 2024 to allow homeowners to declare renovations, repairs, or other activities that were undertaken in their primary residence without proper permits, and that the associated non-compliance fees for post construction permits, be waived, upon application and payment for necessary permits for the declared project(s).