

Minutes – Council – November 23, 2023

Minute No. 3

Report – Executive Policy Committee – October 17, 2023

Item No. 20 Establishment of a Chief Construction Officer

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That Council seek to hire a Chief Construction Officer as an employee of the City of Winnipeg, subject to City Council confirmation of a job description, priorities plan, including reporting requirements, and process for hiring, and that the CCO office be financed through an addition to the City's Corporate Capital Overhead Charge sufficient to raise \$0.5m annually and that Council refer the authorization of 2 FTEs (1 CCO, and 1 additional FTE as support staff) for the CCO Office and any necessary budget approvals to the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget Process.
2. That Council establish a Chief Construction Officer (CCO) Search Committee, consisting of:
 - Councillor Mayes;
 - Councillor Dobson;
 - Councillor Schreyer; and
 - One member of the Mayor's Office staff as the Mayor's designate,and direct Corporate Human Resources to assist the CCO Search 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 Search 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.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

BE IT RESOLVED that Item 20 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated October 17, 2023, be amended as follows:

- Add the following new Recommendation 3:
 - “3. That the job description, including expectations and reporting requirements, be approved by Council prior to any hiring.”
- Renumber the remaining recommendations accordingly

With the concurrence of the seconder, Councillor Eadie, and with the permission of Council, Councillor Wyatt withdrew the above motion.

In amendment,

Moved by His Worship Mayor Gillingham,

Seconded by Councillor Lukes,

WHEREAS on October 17, 2023 Mayor Gillingham moved a motion at Executive Policy Committee that requested that Council proceed to hire a Chief Construction Officer to advise the City on construction and infrastructure strategy and best practices, and Executive Policy Committee unanimously recommended that motion for approval to City Council;

AND WHEREAS on October 26, 2023, Mayor Gillingham laid over debate on his Motion at Council pending further discussion on technical questions about the proposal;

AND WHEREAS Section 88 of The City of Winnipeg Charter gives City Council authority to determine the administrative structure for the City of Winnipeg via by-laws, subject to other limits in the Charter;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

AND WHEREAS Council is permitted to specify exceptions to any rule by which new employees must report to the Chief Administrative Officer under Sections 97 (c) and (d) of the Charter and Section 17 of the Organization By-Law;

AND WHEREAS certain amendments to the Mayor’s motion will confirm Council’s statutory authority to create and fund this new Officer, reporting directly to Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Item 20 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated October 17, 2023, be amended as follows:

- Replace Recommendation 1 with the following:
 - “1. That Council seek to hire a Chief Construction Officer as an employee of the City of Winnipeg, subject to City Council confirmation of a job description, priorities plan, including reporting requirements, and process for hiring, and that the CCO office be financed through an addition to the City’s Corporate Capital Overhead Charge sufficient to raise \$0.5m annually and that Council refer the authorization of 2 FTEs (1 CCO, and 1 additional FTE as support staff) for the CCO Office and any necessary budget approvals to the 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget Process.”
- Replace Recommendation 2 with the following:
 - “2. That Council establish a Chief Construction Officer (CCO) Search Committee, consisting of:
 - Councillor Mayes;
 - Councillor Dobson;
 - Councillor Schreyer; and
 - One member of the Mayor’s Office staff as the Mayor’s designate,and direct Corporate Human Resources to assist the CCO Search Committee in finalizing a job description and salary range and to assist in executing a search for qualified candidates.”

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

- Recommendation 3 be amended by replacing the words “Hiring Committee” with the words “Search Committee”.

Carried

The motion for the adoption of the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, as amended, was put and declared carried.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On October 26, 2023, Council laid over consideration of the item to its meeting on November 23, 2023.

Further, on October 26, 2023, Council laid over consideration of the following amending motion to its meeting on November 23, 2023:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

BE IT RESOLVED that Item 20 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated October 17, 2023, be amended as follows:

- Add the following new Recommendation 3:

“3. That the job description, including expectations and reporting requirements, be approved by Council prior to any hiring.”
- Renumber the remaining recommendations accordingly

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 17, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion:

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

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.
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.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

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

and submitted the matter to Council.