Agenda – Council – February 22, 2024

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 1, 2024

Item No. 7 Solar Panels

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 13, 2024, 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 be directed to report back to the Standing Committee in 120 days with options to streamline and expedite the approval process for solar panel installations and permit requirements for wall mounted, roof mounted and ground mounted installations for both housing applications.

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

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 1, 2024

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 13, 2024, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 1, 2024, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the Council Motion of January 25, 2024, with the following amendment:

- Add the words “to the Standing Committee in 120 days” after the words “report back”

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

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On January 25, 2024, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Allard,

WHEREAS residents are, through new builds or major renovations, constructing homes that are ready for the installation of solar panels on roofs;

AND WHEREAS at the time of the initial installation, residents may be under the impression that no additional permits will be required for the future installation of solar panels;

AND WHEREAS increased costs deter some residents from choosing solar power in order to reduce their energy costs;

AND WHEREAS solar panels increase affordability of utility costs over time;

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 1, 2024

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

AND WHEREAS solar panels generate green electricity while reducing demand with Manitoba Hydro who may then sell electricity in jurisdictions where fossil fuels would be used to generate the electricity required by those jurisdictions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Service be directed to report back with options to streamline and expedite the approval process for solar panel installations and permit requirements for wall mounted, roof mounted and ground mounted installations for both housing applications.