

Minutes – Council – June 27, 2024

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Public Works – June 11, 2024

Item No. 3 Re-establishing City of Winnipeg Asphaltting Capacity

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That the Council Motion of May 30, 2024, be received as information.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Lukes,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Schreyer,

Seconded by Councillor Wyatt,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is currently renting asphalt equipment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Item 3 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works dated June 11, 2024, be amended as follows:

- Delete Recommendation 1 and replace with the following:
 1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back on the nature and cost of the rental of said asphalt equipment.
 2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

The motion for the adoption of the amendment was put.

Councillor Eadie called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Allard, Dobson, Eadie, Orlikow, Schreyer, Sharma and

Wyatt

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Nay: His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Es, Mayes, Rollins and Santos

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and the amendment was declared lost.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

The motion for adoption of the item was put.

Councillor Eadie called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Duncan, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Sharma	12
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Nay: Councillors Dobson, Eadie, Schreyer and Wyatt	4
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and the motion for the adoption of the item was declared carried.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 18, 2024, the Executive Policy Committee recommended the following to Council:

1. That the Council motion of May 30, 2024 be received as information.

The following persons submitted communications with respect to the matter:

- David Grant
- Councillor Wyatt, Transcona Ward

On June 11, 2024, due to a tie vote, the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council without recommendation.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On May 30, 2024, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Public Works:

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is presently at the mercy of the private sector for access to asphalt plants and asphalt material, impacting the City as it attempts to address the numerous complaints we have been receiving for pothole repairs;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg originally had its own asphalt plant that was decommissioned at the time of the construction of the Virology Lab, with promises then made that a new plant would be constructed by and for the use of the Public Works Department, City of Winnipeg, but that promise has gone unfulfilled;

AND WHEREAS since that time, the technology has dramatically improved, in terms of asphalt plant costs, the ability to now build and operate smaller asphalt plants, as well as mobile and portable asphalt plants (see Appendix A), all of which would increase the City of Winnipeg's ability to efficiently address both pothole and road repair complaints;

AND WHEREAS the ability as a City to fix and conduct timely road repairs has been dramatically affected by the City's 100% reliance on the private sector for asphalt, including, but not limited to, exorbitant inflation costs that have risen far above existing rates of inflation (Consumer Price Index, CPI), as well as by the fact the private sector builds in significant profit margins, while at the same time prioritizing their own access to asphalt over the city's need to access asphalt;

AND WHEREAS the private construction industry in Winnipeg has been subject to consolidation that has reduced the number of actual companies available to compete, placing the City of Winnipeg in a poor strategic position in terms of being able to contain future road repair costs, while concurrently negatively affecting the City's ability to address the service needs of the citizens of Winnipeg;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Winnipeg re-establish its own asphalt making capacity by the purchase of an asphalt plant and/or by investing in portable and/or mobile asphalt equipment (see Appendix A), allowing the Public Works Department to end its 100% reliance on the private sector for asphalt.