Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 18, 2025

Report – Governance Committee of Council – March 11, 2025

Item No. 2 City of Winnipeg Governance Review – Governance Committee Recommendations

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to consult with the applicable area Councillor prior to any report involving service cuts or land use matters within their Ward being submitted to committee, with the exception of matters that are the subject of a public hearing, and that confirmation of the consultation be included in the report, similar to the existing process on certain real estate matters.

2. That the Province of Manitoba be requested to amend the City of Winnipeg Charter as follows:

    A. That the Mayor's appointment authority be limited to the appointment of up to five (5) Members of Council as chairpersons for standing committees of Council, one of which shall also be appointed as Deputy Mayor, and another as Acting Deputy Mayor, as determined by the Mayor.

    B. To allow the City to set its own committee structure and composition.

3. That when making appointments to the Executive Policy Committee, the Mayor consider having all wards represented over time.

4. That prior to the consideration of the establishment of a Planning Commission, the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council one year after the completion of the Winnipeg Zoning By-laws rewrites, with an analysis on changes which impact the development application public hearing process.

5. That the Indigenous Relations Division be encouraged to facilitate annual discussions between Indigenous Elders and Council regarding pertinent issues.

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EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

6. That the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be amended:

   A. to formalize the process for the granting of leaves of absence for Members of Council at Council and Committee meetings, to include the following reasons:

      i. Personal matter;

      ii. City Business

   B. i. to require that when Members of Council arrive at Council and Committee meetings after the start of the meeting, the time in which they entered the meeting be recorded in the minutes.

      ii. to require Members of Council to advise Council or Committee if they will be leaving a meeting prior to adjournment, and the time in which they leave be recorded in the minutes.

   C. to set a total speaking time limit for delegations and public hearing representations at Council and Committee meetings to five (5) minutes, regardless of the number of Minutes items addressed, plus extensions of time as may be granted, up to a maximum of a total of five (5) additional minutes.

7. That the City Organizational By-law 7100/91 be amended as follows:

   A. to require that any political direction to amend administrative reports after they have been submitted to the Mayor's Office, be documented in the subject report.

   B. to transfer the jurisdiction over all audit matters currently delegated to the Executive Policy Committee, to a new Audit Committee, comprised of the following members, to be appointed by Council annually at the Organizational Meeting of Council, beginning in November, 2025:

      i. The Mayor, Chairperson;

      ii. Two Councillors who do not sit on the Executive Policy Committee;

      iii. One citizen member with a professional designation in law;

      iv. One citizen member with a professional designation in accounting.

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EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

8. That prior to November 2025, the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council, through the Governance Committee, with recommendations for appointing citizen members to the Audit Committee and the reporting relationship between the Audit Committee and Council.

9. That the City Solicitor and Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 and the City Organizational By-law 7100/91, in accordance with Recommendations 6 and 7, and submit same directly to Council for enactment.

9. 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:

Moved by Councillor Lukes,

That the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

Councillor Browaty was absent from the vote on the above motion.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 11, 2025, the Governance Committee of Council concurred in the recommendation with the following amendment:

- Add the following new Recommendation 8 and renumber the remaining recommendation accordingly:

  "8. That prior to November 2025, the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council, through the Governance Committee, with recommendations for appointing citizen members to the Audit Committee and the reporting relationship between the Audit Committee and Council."

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

David Grant submitted a communication in opposition to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On December 12, 2024, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and granted an extension of time of up to 60 days to report back on the matter.

On February 22, 2024, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and granted an extension of time to December 2024 to report back on the matter.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

On September 29, 2023, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and granted an extension of time of up to 180 days to report back on the matter.

On March 23, 2023, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and adopted the following:

1. That Item 7 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated February 14, 2023, regarding an amendment the City Organizational By-law No. 7100/97 to transfer jurisdiction of audit matters to the Governance Committee of Council, and the February 23, 2023, amending Council motion, be referred to the Governance Review Process for report back in 150 days.

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

On February 23, 2023, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and adopted the following:

1. That the recommendations and commentary of the Community Committees (Attachment A), be received as information.

2. That the report of the Winnipeg Public Service be received as information.

3. That the Governance Committee of Council be tasked with further reviewing the MNP Governance Review report within 180 days, in order to determine recommendations for implementation.

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