Submission – Ryan Falk

Item No. 5 Opt-Out Program for the Advanced Metering System

Submitted: Wed, 07/16/2025 - 10:34

Committee you want to address
Council

Agenda item you want to address (number and title)
5. Opt out program for the advanced meter system (AMI)

Support or oppose recommendations
I am opposed to the recommendations

Submit comments in writing checkbox
Submit comments in writing

Comments
I do not believe I should be forced to put a smart water meter on my property! It's quite hypocritical our city preaches safety and concern for its citizens, but at the same time, will roll out new technology without knowing the safety risks. I believe all citizens should be fully informed.

First I will address the personal health risks. Smartmeters expose all of us to radiation. The city will state that it is safe and will pose no health risks. I believe only 5 years ago, they said the same thing about the covid vaccines, and our city was willing to go ahead and push this on its employees and punish those that would not comply. There are an exorbitant number of health related risks from the covid shots.

Smartmeters are not safe and emit a lot more radiation than we are to lead to believe. Daniel Hirsch, retired director of the Program on Environmental and Nuclear Policy at the University of California explains misleading reports. He quotes, "When you correct for these two facts, the whole body and cumulative, rather than the cell phone being 100 times more exposure than a smartmeter, the smartmeter turns out to be roughly 100 times more exposure than a cell phones." I've attached the link. I'm sure if you're all genuinely concerned for the citizens of Winnipeg, you will find the 5 minutes to listen to him speak explaining his concerns.
https://ehtrust.org/health-risks-posed-by-smartmeters/#:~:text=David%20Carpenter's%20letter%20%E2%80%9CCorrecting%20the,radiofrequency%20radiation%2D%20whatever%20the%20source.

The other issue is the increased risk for fires. As a firefighter we have seen an increase in fires with lithium batteries. These pose a serious fire hazard to all the citizens of Winnipeg.

That is another area where the city of Winnipeg has dropped the ball. Before the city would even entertain this program, the risks associated should have been conveyed to the public. Should you go ahead and implement the smartmeter program, the city should be liable for loss of life or property. Lithium batteries are not safe, there is a serious overheating risk that have been the cause of many fires. I will gladly provide you with material to support this.

Based on my concerns, I feel it's reckless of the city to roll out the smartmeter program without first informing the citizens with accurate information, not material to support otherwise. I feel this program should not even move forward. If so, at the very least, there should be a way to opt out of the program. There should be no penalty for choosing to opt out and we should not be hit with additional expenses. Doing so is punitive and a cash grab. It sure doesn't feel like it anymore, but we still live in a country where we have the freedom to choose. I will gladly continue to call in or send a picture of my reading.

I consent to being contacted to participate in potential public engagement related to this matter.
Yes

First name
Ryan

Last name
Falk