Minute No. 373
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - April 5, 2005

Item No. 7 Amendments to The Winnipeg Electrical By-law No. 36/2003
File EB-2.1

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and adopted the following:

1. That the amendments to The Winnipeg Electrical By-law No. 36/2003 as outlined in the report from the Director of Planning, Property and Development dated March 30, 2005, be approved.

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 - April 5, 2005

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor De Smedt,
That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 20, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 5, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Re: Electrical By-law No. 36/2003 Amendments

For submission to: Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development

Original report signed by: Director of Planning, Property and Development

Report date: March 30, 2005

Recommendation(s):

1. That the proposed By-law, attached to this report, be approved, to amend the Winnipeg Electrical By-law No. 26/2003.

2. That the proper officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing.

REPORT SUMMARY

Key Issues:

- Two By-law amendments are required in order to correct a conflict between the various by-laws and the Code regarding the requirement for a design professional, as well as to recognize an existing industry practice of locating service boxes on the outside of a building, a practice that has been adopted by Manitoba Hydro.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):
General implications:

X	**None**
	For the organization overall and/or for other departments
	For the community and/or organizations external to the City of Winnipeg
	Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s):

-

Policy implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Environmental implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Human resources implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Financial implications:

X	**Within approved current and/or capital budget**
	Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s):

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REASON FOR THE REPORT:

City Council has authority to make final decisions on matters requiring the enactment of a by-law.

HISTORY:

On March 26, 2003, Council adopted By-law 36/2003, a By-law to authorize and regulate the electrical installations of building(s) or property. This By-law adopts the 2002 Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1, Nineteenth Edition, and makes amendments to the Code as required to accommodate the enforcement procedures of the City of Winnipeg and to accommodate best practice in Manitoba as a whole.

The Canadian Electrical Code, Part 1 is a standard Electrical Code published by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) setting forth the essential requirements of the minimum standards governing electrical installations for buildings, structures and premises throughout Canada.

The design profession and the construction industry have identified two by-law issues that require amending. The two proposed amendments recognize existing practice methods and with these amendments, it will ensure the formal acceptance of these practices. The Planning, Property and Development Department concurs with the amendments.

DISCUSSION:

The Planning Property and Development Department is proposing two amendments to the Winnipeg Electrical By-Law No. 36/2003. The first amendment is to correct a conflict between the Electrical By-law, the Building By-law and the Manitoba Building Code (MBC), on when a professional engineer is required for design. The current Electrical By-Law requirement, Rule 2-000, only requires a professional engineer for high-rise buildings regulated by Subsection 3.2.6 of the MBC. The MBC requires a design professional for all buildings regulated under Subsection 2.1.2, which includes all Part 3 buildings, and not just those buildings regulated by Subsection 3.2.6 of Part 3. The proposed amendment will ensure that the Electrical By-Law will be the same as the Building By-law and the MBC. It should be noted the Planning, Property and Development Department already receives electrical drawings sealed by a design professional for a majority of building projects. The proposed amendment would not substantially change the existing industry practice.

The second proposed amendment is to recognize an existing industry practice of locating service boxes on the outside of a building, a practice that has been adopted by Manitoba Hydro. There does not appear to be any adverse effect, or any safety concerns, with this practice. The current Electrical By-law requirement, Rule 6-206, allows for this type of installation only when "environmental conditions within the structure are unsuitable". The proposed amendment broadens the application on outside installations in order to recognize the existing industry practice, which practice has proven to be safe.

Financial Impact Statement Date: March 21, 2005

COMMENTS:

The recommendation contained within this report is that the proposed By-law, attached to this report, be approved, to amend the Winnipeg Electrical By-law No. 26/2003. There are no financial implications associated with this recommendation.

"Original Signed By"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT, THERE WAS CONSULTATION WITH AND CONCURRENCE BY:

Legal Services Division, Corporate Services

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Planning, Property and Development Department
Division: Development and Inspections Division
Prepared by: Mike Anderson

Document name: O:\Reports Directive\Development and Inspections\Plan Examination\Electrical by-law ammendments Feb.2005.doc