CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

On motion of Councillor Brown, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated April 29th, 1992, was considered clause by clause.

West Committee Room,
Council Building, Winnipeg,
April 29th, 1992.

His Worship the Mayor and Councillors:-

Your Executive Policy Committee submits the following Report and recommends:-

**Park and Boulevard Maintenance.**
Files PB-1 & PR-7

855 - 1. Your Executive Policy Committee has considered the attached report from the Special Committee on Park and Boulevard Maintenance. (Appendix "A").

The Committee was established by Council on September 25th, 1991, to study park and boulevard maintenance issues and report its findings.

The Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture on April 21st, 1992, considered the aforesaid report, approved the report in principle and recommended that in the on-going analysis referred to in the report, that consideration be given for the use of alternate types of ground cover, i.e. hard surfacing, different types of vegetation.

Your Executive Policy Committee concurs in the Protection, Parks and Culture recommendation and recommends as follows:-

1. That the report of the Special Committee on Park and Boulevard Maintenance and the long term goals and action plan contained therein be adopted as part of a program of continuous improvement in the Parks and Recreation Department's park and boulevard maintenance system.

2. That the General Manager of Parks and Recreation ensure that field tours of each community area are conducted for Councillors and Resident Advisory Group members in the May to July time period.

3. That the Operations Department continue to seek alternate methods/chemicals to the salting of streets, the spreading of sand and snow dumping on boulevards, to significantly reduce or eliminate these practises.

4. That consideration be given for the use of alternate types of ground cover, i.e. hard surfacing, different types of vegetation.

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.

Moved by Councillor Mitchelson,
That the question be now put.

Carried.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put and declared carried.

Councillors Lorenc and Murray asked to be recorded as having voted against the clause in accordance with Section 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.

(Note: See Minute No. 869 for attachment.)
Your Executive Policy Committee has considered the following information with respect to a Canada-China Dinosaur Project as contained in a communication from His Worship the Mayor, dated March 25th, 1992.

"I recently had an opportunity to meet with officials of the Museum of Man and Nature and Berkowitz Limited Event Management to discuss the possibilities and the potential of the Canada-China Dinosaur Project coming to Winnipeg.

The Dinosaur Project is a program of the Ex Terre Foundation headquartered in Edmonton and supported by the Governments of Canada and Alberta. They have undertaken a major excavation of fossils in both Canada and China and the goal of the project is to produce an international touring exhibit by which citizens throughout the world may learn more of this heritage.

The Museum of Man and Nature has expressed an interest in acting as the host of the Canada-China Dinosaur Project in the summer/fall of 1993. To this end they have been working closely with Berkowitz Limited Event Management to determine how best to attract this travelling exhibition to Winnipeg. The cost of preparing an investigative report upon which to base the planning for the project is estimated to be $10,000.00.

The Museum's present financial constraints prevent them from undertaking this initial study. However, they envisage this as a profit making venture, similar to the Panda Exhibit, whereby front end costs would be repaid from operating profits.

It is my understanding that this exhibition has the potential to attract many thousands of visitors and is a project which certainly deserves further exploration. I would therefore recommend that Committee give favourable consideration to advancing the Museum of Man and Nature the sum of $10,000.00 (Acct. 01-552102-001101) for the purpose of undertaking this investigative study."

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends that the Museum of Man and Nature be advanced the sum of $10,000.00 from Account 01-552102-001101 (Promotions) for the purpose of undertaking an investigative study on the potential of a Canada-China Dinosaur Project coming to Winnipeg.

Your Committee further recommends that Tourism Winnipeg be requested to provide an economic impact study on the proposal.

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Local Improvement Projects - Canadian Pacific Railway.
File SL.

In order to ensure the construction of needed local improvements, it is proposed that the property located in District 4, being a sidewalk located on the east side of Gateway Road from a point approximately 125 feet north of the north line of Ragsdill Road to Bonner Avenue, which is owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and deemed unsuitable for building purposes be exempted from the payment of local improvement levies in accordance with the above policy.

However, if at a future time the purpose of said land changes and it is then classified as a buildable site, the City shall be empowered to recoup local improvement costs for the installation of services, prior to any connections being made to underground improvements such as sewer and watermains, and access to above-ground improvements, such as paved streets - all subject to the provisions of Chapter 109, Province of Manitoba Statutes (1965) and Privy Council Order 1979/607.

Chapter 109 of the Province of Manitoba Statutes allows for taxation for local improvements to C.P.R. properties within the borders of the former City of Winnipeg only if the local improvement is a direct benefit to the railway operations of the company or operations in connection therewith.

Concurrence in the following recommendation would ensure that needed local improvements could be installed, as railway property frontage would not be considered assessable and therefore would not be allowed to petition against these projects.

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends:

1. That the property located in District 4 being a sidewalk located on the east side of Gateway Road from a point approximately 125 feet north of the north line of Ragsdill Road to Bonner Avenue, and owned by the C.P.R., which is unsuitable for building purposes, not be assessed for local improvement charges.

2. That if at any time this property be deemed to be a buildable site, that prior to allowing any connection from underground services or access from surface improvements, the City Treasurer initiate steps to collect the appropriate local improvement costs.

Moved by Councillor Brown, Adoption of the clause.
Carried.

Allocation of Funds from the Land Dedication Reserve Fund - Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan - Community.
Files EP-2 & PR-2

858 - 4. The Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee on April 7th, 1992, approved the following funds to be expended from its Land Dedication Account.

Your Executive Policy Committee concurs in the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee recommendation and submits for the approval of Council, the following funds to be expended from the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Land Dedication Reserve Fund:-

Constable Edward Finney School/Mandalay West Park
Play equipment installation $22,500.00

Meadows West School
Installation of play equipment in the adjacent Rosehill Park $22,500.00

Joe Zuken Park
Increase safety lighting modification project $20,000.00

St. John's Park Centennial Project
Partial funding for Riverbank restoration and tree planting $5,000.00

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Form of Tax Roll for Collection of Realty Taxes. File FL-2

859 - 5. On-going computerization in the Tax Branch will allow for the elimination of a hard copy, "paper" tax roll in 1992 for realty taxation. Instead an electronic realty tax roll will be utilized. Electronic simply means computerized. It will be possible to print duplicate hard copies on request. The public copy of the realty tax roll will continue to be available on microfiche.

Section 206(5) of The City of Winnipeg Act provides that the form of the general tax roll may be in the form of a series of sheets or cards...or in such other manner as may be provided by by-law.

Your Executive Policy Committee submits for favourable consideration, draft by-law to provide for the form and manner of storage of its realty tax roll.

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Joint Committee - Council/C.U.P.E. Representatives. File GU-4.1


Part of the referenced Memorandum of Agreement is a letter of understanding also dated May 16th, 1991, wherein it is recognized that a joint committee comprised of 3 representatives of City Council and 3 representatives of C.U.P.E., Local 500, will be struck to examine and discuss concerns regarding the employment of seasonal limited term and part-time personnel.

The Joint Committee - Council/C.U.P.E. Representatives, as provided for in the Collective Agreement, have considered methods available to enable seasonal employees to have their weeks of insurable earnings increased. Meetings have been held between the Joint Committee and representatives of Parks and Recreation and Operations and Social Services Departments to explore methods of increasing the work season for seasonal employees. Discussions with the Operations Department and C.U.P.E. are summarized in Attachment "A", copy of which is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Subsequent discussions have been held with the Social Services Department to explore the possibilities of Joint Programs between the two departments similar to the Dutch Elm Disease Program. At the present time, there is insufficient funding available through any of the three levels of government to facilitate such a program.

An extensive review of seasonal employees employed in the Parks and Recreation Department revealed that of 1,839 seasonal employees, 53 employees representing 3% of the seasonal work force, had active involvement with the Social Services Department. It would appear that the majority of Parks and Recreation Department seasonal employees obtain a sufficient number of insurable weeks to be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits or are not in need of support through Social Services.

Consideration was also given to staggering the scheduling of recall to avoid the peak hiring and to extend the work season. This option was discarded due to the urgency of the commencement of the mowing season and the lack of temporary seasonal dollars in the budget to perform work beyond August 31st of each year. The Joint Committee hereby submits the following recommendation for consideration and advancement to Council with a recommendation for favourable consideration, namely, that the Personnel Department be directed to give those seasonal employees laid off by the Parks and Recreation Department, first consideration for hiring by other Civic Departments who are hiring "off the street" for work that needs to be performed.

Further to the above, the Joint Committee also recommends that Council be requested to approve a continuance of meetings of the Joint Committee to explore other issues such as job creation, retraining and redeployment opportunities within The City of Winnipeg.

Your Executive Policy Committee concurs in the above recommendation relative to "first consideration" to seasonal employees laid off by the Parks and Recreation Department, and further recommends that Council approve a continuance of meetings of the Joint Committee - Council/C.U.P.E. Representatives to explore other issues such as job creation, retraining and redeployment opportunities within The City of Winnipeg.

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.
Carried.

Amendments to Convention Centre Corporation Act respecting Terms of Appointment of Directors. Files GC-7 & G-1.

861 - 7. On March 20th, 1992, the Convention Centre Corporation approved proposed amendments to the Convention Centre Corporation Act. The proposed amendments to the Act are in respect of the term of appointment of Directors, excluding those Directors that are appointed and are members of the Council of The City of Winnipeg, and the maximum consecutive number of years any Director is eligible to serve on the Board, for the purpose of effecting a timely rotation of Directors of the Board of the Convention Centre Corporation.

It is the understanding of your Committee, that the Corporation requires approval of the proposed amendments from the Council of The City of Winnipeg, prior to submission of application for amendment to legislation.

The Convention Centre Corporation, therefore, requests Council approval and confirmation of the attached amendments. Following approval by Council, a final draft copy of the proposed amendments will be prepared by Corporation solicitors, Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman, for submission of the application.

Your Executive Policy Committee concurs in the request of the Convention Centre Corporation and recommends that Council approve the attached proposed amendments to the Convention Centre Corporation Act, identified as Appendix "A".

Moved by Councillor Brown,
Adoption of the clause.
Carried.

Councillor Golden asked to be recorded as having voted against the clause, in accordance with Section 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.

(Note: See Minute No. 870 for attachment.)

Moved by Councillor Fleisher,

That Rule 8.6 of the Procedure By-law be suspended to enable members of Council to remove their jackets.

Carried.

The City of Winnipeg Economic Initiative -
The North West Company Inc. Distribution Centre. Files FI-2, FI-2.2 & FI-2.4.5

862 - 8. Your Executive Policy Committee has considered the attached report (Appendix "A"), from the Chief Commissioner, dated April 24th, 1992. The report outlines acquisition of lands, the lease-back operation and the terms of reference for an economic initiative with the North West Company Inc. for a distribution centre.

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends as follows:-

1. That the City make a repayable, economic development contribution to The North West Company Inc., in the amount of $1,700,000.00, by entering into a land purchase agreement, chargeable to the Land Operating Reserve Account, and having a net present value of $1,300,000.00.

2. The lease back of the subject lands to The North West Company Inc. for a term of up to 15 years at a rental of $1.00 per annum, subject to the Company fulfilling employment conditions as described in Appendix "A".

3. An agreement between The North West Company Inc. and the City requiring The North West Company Inc. to re-purchase the subject lands at the termination of the 15-year lease at the City's original purchase price of $1,710,000.00 or the then market value, whichever is greater.

4. The administration to be instructed to do all things necessary to conclude all agreements required to carry out the intent of Council, in accordance with the terms and conditions described in Appendix "A".

Moved by Mayor Norrie,

Adoption of the clause.

Pursuant to The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act, Councillor Mitchelson advised Council he would refrain from entering the discussion and from voting on the clause, because of a conflict with business interests, and left the Chamber.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Mendelson,
Seconded by Councillor Thomas,
That the clause be amended to add the following paragraph after paragraph 3:-

"(4) That this agreement be subject to North West Company Inc. offering any positions located at its Distribution Centre in Winnipeg and not filled by existing employees at its Distribution Centres in Montreal and Toronto, to laid off employees of The Hudson Bay Distribution Centre and former Winnipeg employees of the North West Company Inc. previously laid off";

And that paragraph 4 be renumbered paragraph 5.

In amendment to the amendment,

Moved by Councillor Lorenc,
Seconded by Councillor Clement,
That the first line in the second paragraph of the above motion be deleted and replaced with the following words, namely:-

"That the North West Company Inc., be requested to offer . . . ."

The Speaker called the Acting Speaker, Councillor Demare, to the Chair and left the Chamber.

Moved by Councillor Reese,
Seconded by Councillor Selinger,
That the clause and proposed amendment be referred back to Executive Policy Committee with instructions to negotiate the proposed conditions.

The motion to refer with instructions was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Duguid, Golden, Hyman, Mendelson, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas and Timmers. 11

Nay: Councillors Brown, Clement, Douglas, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Kaufmann, Lorenc, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 13

and the motion to refer was declared lost.

The Speaker returned to the Chamber and resumed the Chair.

The amendment to the amendment was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Brown, Clement, Demare, Diamant, Douglas, Duguid, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Golden, Hyman, Kaufmann, Lazarenko, Lorenc, Murray, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 21

Nay: Councillors Mendelson, Reese, Selinger, Thomas and Timmers. 5

and the amendment to the amendment was declared carried.

The amendment, as amended, was put.

Mayor Norrie called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Brown, Clement, Demare, Diamant, Douglas, Duguid, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Golden, Hyman, Kaufmann, Lazarenko, Lorenc, Mendelson, Murray, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Selinger, Timmers, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 24

Nay: Councillors Reese and Thomas. 2

and the amendment, as amended, was declared carried.

The motion for the adoption of the clause, as amended, was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Douglas, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Kaufmann, Lazarenko, Lorenc, Mendelson, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 16

Nay: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Duguid, Golden, Hyman, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas and Timmers. 10

and the motion for the adoption of the clause, as amended, was declared carried.

Councillor Mitchelson returned to the Chamber.

(Note: See Minute No. 871 for attachment.)

**Sewer Utility By-law No. 5058/88**  
- Adjustment of Sewer Charges.  
**File WW-2.3**

863 - 9. Generally sewer charges are based on the amount of water delivered to a residence or industry. This is inequitable where a large volume of the water used does not flow to the sewers. This occurs at establishments where water is used for cooling, at industries where water is evaporated in the process, where the water is incorporated into a product and also where water is used for irrigation. In severe cases, where the burden of such charges is very high, Sewer By-laws often provide for an adjustment of the sewer charges.

Under the current Sewer Utility By-law No. 5058/88, Section 6.11, copy attached, (see Appendix "A"), an establishment can qualify for a reduction in sewer charges if the water use is greater than 25,000 cubic metres/year and the water not going to sewer is greater than 10 percent of the use. At current sewer rates, a user of 25,000 cubic meters/year would be paying $13,200.00 in sewer charges, and is eligible for a reduction of from $1,320.00 - $13,200.00 (i.e. 10% to 100%) if the applicant can demonstrate that the water does not reach the sewer, and can provide suitable metering. At present approximately ten industries receive such an adjustment in total of $460,000.00 per year. The administration of this part of the By-law is carried out by an administration committee known as the Sewer Rental Adjustment Committee chaired by the Wastewater Engineer.

While the above seems simple and straightforward, there are two major concerns with the present wording of the By-law that have been raised by users with the Sewer Rental Adjustment Committee. The complaints about the By-law have increased with the large increases in the Sewer rate in recent years.

The concerns are:-

1) The 25,000 cubic metre threshold for water usage allows only large users to claim the adjustment, even though smaller users meet the 2,500 cubic metre (10% of 25,000 cubic metres) of water not reaching the sewer.

The system encourages water wasting in order to meet the 25,000 cubic metre threshold to be allowed to receive an adjustment. For example, a customer using water for cooling at 15,000 cubic metres per year and paying $12,700.00 in total water/sewer charges could lower the bill to $6,100.00 by wasting another 10,000 cubic metres of water, receiving a sewer rate adjustment, and paying for water only. In other words, it is cheaper to buy 25,000 cubic metres of water than to pay sewer and water on 15,000 cubic metres. The proposed by-law amendment eliminates the incentive to waste water by eliminating the requirement to use 25,000 cubic metres in order to qualify.

The original rationale for the 25,000 cubic metres was to ensure only large users could apply for a reduction to keep administration simple. This is replaced by providing for no reduction in sewer charges for the first 2,500 cubic metres not reaching the sewer. This will eliminate minor claims that would become administratively impossible to deal with. Since even large users would pay sewer charges on the first 2,500 cubic metres not reaching the sewers, smaller users who do not reach the 2,500 will see fairness in the approach. The resulting minimum annual charge of $1,320.00 also covers costs of inspections and accounting for the program.

2) The current By-law does not allow a reduction where water is used in a consumable product since it was viewed that this water will "indirectly find its way into the sewage system." While this may be true, local firms have complained that they should be given a credit for product exported out of the City, and more importantly that the City should apply a sewer charge to beverages imported to the City. It is clearly not practical to start charging sewer charges on imported products. In the view of the department, the by-law should be changed.

The current by-law is viewed as irresponsible by some where it encourages water wasting and unfair by others since it is discriminatory against local beverage producers. In the opinion of your Executive Policy Committee, these concerns must be addressed despite the negative financial impact.

The by-law revision makes explicit the long time practice of the Rental Adjustment Committee that water used in irrigation not be exempted from sewer charges in spite of the fact that much of this water does not reach the sewer. The rationale for not allowing this exemption is that most residential customers who irrigate cannot be exempted as a matter of practicality. Accordingly, it would be unfair to exempt large users.

The financial impact of the proposed change is to a large degree unknown. Smaller users and beverage producers who did not previously qualify, but would under the proposed by-law. This may result in a sewer revenue loss of $350,000.00 or about 0.8 percent of current revenues. This would be made up by a general rate increase. It is recommended that the proposed changes be made effective January 1st, 1993, so that the impact of the changes can be included in the budget and rate-setting process for the 1993 current estimates.

It should be noted that sewer rental adjustments of this type, while not universal, are common in North America. For example, Calgary, Regina and Halifax have provision for adjustments.

Alternative 1

Alternative 1 would be to leave the by-law as it is. This is not recommended since the current system encourages water wasting and is unfair to local beverage producers.

Alternative 2

Another alternative would be to eliminate all sewer rental adjustments, and charge the sewer rate for all water delivered. This is not recommended because the utility is attempting to relate sewer use charges to the greatest degree practical to actual sewage volumes and costs. That is, the utility should not be charging for sewer use where there is no sewer use. However, in a practical sense, because of administrative effort, cost, and reliability of meters, sewer rental adjustments can only be made for large reductions.

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends:-

1. That the minimum water usage quantity to qualify for adjustment of sewer charges be reduced from 25,000 cubic metres/year to 2,500 cubic metres/year.

2. That no adjustment of sewer charges be provided for the first 2,500 cubic metres of water not reaching the sewer.

3. That water used in a product be eligible for sewer rental adjustment in accordance with the by-law.

4. That water used for irrigation not be eligible for adjustment.

5. That the Sewer Utility By-law No. 5058/88, Part 6.11 Adjustment of Sewer Charges, be amended as per attached Appendix "A", to reflect the above recommendations.

6. That the By-law amendment be made effective January 1st, 1993, when the new sewer rate is approved.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Adoption of the clause.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Diamant, Douglas, Duguid, Fraser, Gilroy, Hyman, Lorenc, Mendelson, Murray, O'Shaughnessy, Reese, Selinger, Thomas, Timmers, Young and Eadie.


and the motion for the adoption of the clause was declared carried.

(Note: See Minute No. 872 for attachment.)


864 - 10. On October 2nd, 1991, your Executive Policy Committee requested that the administration review the closure of regional streets for events such as block parties, races, etc. and report back on all implications with respect thereto. The Committee indicated a concern relative to the definition of a block party as it relates to regional streets and, as well, the question of reduced costs versus a fee similar to that being proposed for residential street events.

On January 29th, 1992, your Committee also requested that the administrative report address the following questions:-

- What temporary street closure invoices remain unpaid?
- How can non-profit groups become involved in temporary traffic control to reduce costs?

On October 16th, 1991, Council adopted a resolution that residential block parties be permitted on the basis that the applicants be allowed to do their own barricading, with same to be picked up at the local District Works Yard, with a $50.00 deposit fee being required; and that the City purchase the relevant public liability insurance coverage, with the use-of-street permit fee (currently $25.00) to be adjusted to cover the cost thereof.

A) Street Uses Other Than Residential Block Parties

Table I shows the costs billed for each such event in 1991, including invoices still outstanding. At present, all temporary closures of major streets for entertainment purposes are carried out by Traffic Services employees and may involve the temporary installation and removal of barricades, parking prohibitions, guide signs, stop signs, one-way signs, turn prohibitions and other related traffic control devices. Traffic diversions may involve changes to traffic control signals and transit routes. Having City personnel carry out such work ensures that the
necessary devices are installed and removed where and when specified in the use-of-street permit by staff who have the training and experience to carry out the work in accordance with City standards. However, barricades and other temporary traffic control devices may be installed by volunteers, under low risk circumstances and under the supervision of City staff, in order to minimize costs for non-profit groups. Traffic Services personnel are prepared to meet with group organizers to determine the extent to which volunteers may be involved in such activity.

As of February 24th, 1992, there were unpaid invoices since 1988 amounting to $27,300.51 for closing streets for entertainment purposes. In the past, outstanding costs for major street closures were paid when the applicant applied for the same closure the following year. Obtaining payment for such outstanding costs may be difficult if there are different organizers of the event or no application is submitted for a subsequent event. To overcome this difficulty, it is proposed that a deposit be obtained from each applicant prior to issuing the permit. A refund or an additional invoice would be sent to the applicant after the event to reflect the actual costs incurred.

B) Residential Block Parties

A "Residential Block Party" is considered to mean the annual one-day closure of a local street (containing at least 85% residential frontage) resulting from a request by the majority of the fronting residents. The Law Department has advised that $250,000.00 of public liability insurance should be adequate coverage for a residential block party applicant. A 1992 estimated premium of $130.00 per event will provide such insurance with a $2,500.00 deductible with the applicant responsible for the deductible portion.

To enable block party applicants to take advantage of this insurance, the City would have to pay a 1992 premium deposit of $10,000.00 to the City's insurance company, $5,000.00 of which would be non-refundable. All premiums received from block party applicants up to and including the $10,000.00 premium deposit would be retained by the City; premiums in excess of $10,000.00 would be paid to the insurance company. Depending on the number of residential block parties held in 1992, the City could be liable for up to $5,000.00 in unrecovered premiums.

The proposed procedure for administering requests for a block party on a local residential street is described in attached Schedule "A".

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends:-

1. That the Policy on Temporary Street Closures for Entertainment Purposes be amended by adding the following clauses:

   - "Prior to the issuance of a permit for a street closure for entertainment purposes, other than residential block parties, the Streets and Transportation Department will obtain a deposit or equivalent security to the satisfaction of the Director of Streets and Transportation, from the applicant equal to 50% of the estimated cost of carrying out the work up to a maximum of $500.00."

   - "Following the above event, and in due course, the applicant shall be billed and charged for 50% of the actual cost of carrying out the work up to a maximum of $1,000.00."

2. That the procedure for administering residential block parties be in accordance with Schedule "A" attached hereto.
Council Minutes – May 6, 1992


3. That an additional appropriation in the amount of $30,000.00 be adopted in 1992 to cover fees incurred by non-profit charitable organizations in this connection, to be administered by the Streets and Transportation Department and the Committee on Works and Operations.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,

Adoption of the clause.

Pursuant to The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act, Councillor Mendelson advised Council she would refrain from entering the discussion and from voting on the clause because of a personal relationship with an individual representing a non-profit organization, and left the Chamber.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Hyman,
Seconded by Councillor Timmers,

THAT Recommendation No. 2 of the clause be amended by adding the following words at the end thereof, namely:-

"and that the insurance fee for block parties estimated at $130.00 be absorbed by the City."

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Reese,
Seconded by Councillor O'Shaughnessy,

Be it resolved that the word "and" be added in Recommendation No. 3 in the second line between the words "non-profit" and "charitable".

Carried.

The amendment proposed by Councillors Hyman and Timmers was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Golden, Hyman, Lazarenko, Reese, Selinger, Thomas and Timmers. 9

Nay: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Douglas, Duguid, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Kaufmann, Lorenc, Mitchelson, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 16

and the amendment was declared lost.

The motion for the adoption of the clause, as amended (by the second amendment), was put and declared carried.

Councillor Mendelson returned to the Chamber.

North Portage Development Corporation – Deviation from Final Concept and Financial Plan. File FR-4

865 - 11. Your Executive Policy Committee has been advised by the North Portage Development Corporation that Public Works Canada has issued an invitation to tender for approximately 92,000 square feet of office space for Revenue Canada which is currently located on York Avenue. The tenders are due on May 5th, 1992.

Shelter is proposing to option the site on the same basis as the option for the ISM site (Information Systems Management Corporation) except that they propose to option the site on an exclusive basis.

Public Works Canada issued a possible tender notice for this project in July, 1991. At that time North Portage notified a number of developers including Shelter that the SIR/MHO (Sidney I. Robinson, 290 Vaughan Street/Manitoba Health Organization, 377 Colony Street) was available for development proposals. No other proposals have been received for the site.

Lakeview would like to submit a proposal using the west pad as a site but Revenue Canada requires 10,760 square feet on the ground floor. Public Works has stated that they will not accept a tender that does not completely meet this requirement.

Concept Plan Requirements

Clause 6.03 (b) of the Unanimous Shareholders Agreement states that the Corporation:

Will not materially deviate from the provisions of the Final Concept and Financial Plan without the unanimous consent of the Shareholders.

The Final Concept Plan approved by the shareholders recommends construction of a total of 1,100 residential units and approximately 400,000 square feet of office space (including the originally proposed Union Centre complex). To date there are 655 units in the North Portage area and plans for a further 20 units on the top 3 floors of the YM/YWCA Building. 405,000 square feet of office development has or is being built including One Canada Centre, Portage Place (third and fourth floor) and the ISM headquarters. Further plans call for an additional 120,000 square feet of office space to be built on the west pad by Lakeview.

Shareholder approval is required before the Corporation can option the SIR/MHO site to Shelter because the Revenue Canada proposal would exceed the amount of office space specified in the Corporation's Final Concept Plan.

Revenue Canada requires assurances that the site would be available as part of the tender call which is due May 5th, 1992.

Suitability of the SIR/MHO Site for Residential Development

The SIR/MHO is at best a marginal residential site. Colony Street traffic is quite heavy (19,200 vehicles/12 hours), creating a great deal of traffic noise over the western half of the site. One Canada Centre, and the Relax Plaza cast the site in high shadows from noon onward. This will worsen when the west office tower is constructed.

The market for residential development is currently heavily over supplied in Winnipeg, particularly in the downtown. A recent study conducted for CMHC indicates that these problems could worsen in the next year or so. The study reaches the following conclusion:-

It will likely be several years before the current over supply of rental housing in Winnipeg is absorbed by the market. In the meantime, it is unlikely that significant amounts of new private rental housing will be built - or will be needed. Of the two parcels, the MHO site is the least suitable for residential, given its proximity to Colony Street and the bus depot directly across the street. Several developers in the past have proposed the conversion of the SIR building into residences but none has been able to secure funding for the project.

Given the above, it is unlikely that any private developer would propose a residential use on the SIR/MHO site in the foreseeable future.

It is unlikely that North Portage will be able to develop many more residential units on the lands it currently owns. The SIR/MHO site is likely to attract private sector investment for office space given its location adjacent to the commercial area.

The Board of North Portage believes that the Final Concept and Financial Plan should be modified to reflect the new development realities in Winnipeg. This would enable the Board to approve Shelter's use of the SIR/MHO site in the Revenue Canada tender call. A decision by the shareholders is required by May 5th, 1992, the deadline Revenue Canada has set for tender submissions.

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council as a shareholder in the North Portage Development Corporation, approve a revision to the Final Concept and Financial Plan to provide the Board of Directors the latitude to specify the residential/office mix on the North Portage lands within the range of between 700 - 1100 residential units and between 400,000 - 700,000 square feet of office space.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,

Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

City of Winnipeg Position relative to the Provision of Social Assistance.

File EH-2

866 - 12. Under date of March 11th, 1992, His Worship Mayor Norrie conveyed Council's position relative to the provision of Social Assistance to the Honourable Harold Gilleshammer, Minister of Family Services. Council's position was that the Province of Manitoba not implement selected recommendations contained in the Social Assistance Review Committee Report without further consultation with The City of Winnipeg.

The Honourable Minister in a communication dated April 13th, 1992, advised that the Social Assistance Review Committee will be holding a series of meetings over the next few weeks to discuss issues of concern and that following these meetings, the Committee will be providing the Minister with recommendations regarding the actual implementation of the reforms to the Municipal Assistance Program. The Minister advised that the views of S.A.R.C. members will be reviewed and considered carefully prior to implementation of the Government's initiative.

Following considerable deliberation, your Executive Policy Committee submits the following resolution with recommendation for favourable consideration, namely:-

"Whereas the Federal Government has seen fit to withdraw from a longstanding agreement with the Province of Manitoba whereby the Federal Government has been directly reimbursing municipalities for welfare payments made to non-resident, off-reserve, social assistance recipients;

And Whereas it is the responsibility of the Provincial Government under the terms of the 'Municipal Act' to reimburse municipalities for welfare payments made to persons who have not established residency in the municipality pursuant to Section 453 of the Act;

And Whereas the Province of Manitoba and the Federal Government appear to have reached an impasse with regard to which level of government will reimburse the municipalities and are giving opposing direction as to who the municipality should invoice, And Whereas the municipalities cannot bear the cost of providing this service without reimbursement;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the City of Winnipeg urge the Provincial Government to continue its efforts to reach an agreement with the Federal Government to ensure the uninterrupted reimbursement of municipalities and in the interim to meet its responsibility under 'The Municipal Act' and reimburse municipalities directly for welfare payments to all non-residents of the municipalities in a timely fashion."

Further to the above, and due to the serious implications that have been identified as being more significant in Manitoba, your Executive Policy Committee recommends that the City of Winnipeg and the Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities co-sponsor a workshop for Manitoba municipal representatives relative to the specific social assistance issue and pending costs, during the social assistance review.

For the information of Council, His Worship Mayor Norrie has been authorized to convey a communication to the Province of Manitoba outlining the concerns of the City of Winnipeg and requesting that the Province place the issue on the next Official Delegation agenda or earlier if possible, as a high priority item.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Allocation of Funds from Land Dedication Reserve Fund - St. James-Assiniboia Community.
Files EP-2 & PR

867 - 13. The St. James-Assiniboia Community Committee on April 21st, 1992, approved the following funds to be expended from the Community Land Dedication Reserve Account.

Your Executive Policy Committee concurs in the St. James-Assiniboia Community Committee recommendation and submits for the approval of Council, the following funds to be expended from the St. James-Assiniboia Land Dedication Reserve Account:-

Lincoln School
To construct a play structure $3,500.00

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Extension of Tri-Party Funding Agreement - Winnipeg Sport Facility Committee.
File GC-8.8

868 - 14. Your Executive Policy Committee has considered a communication from Mr. Don MacKenzie, Chairman, Winnipeg Sport Facility Committee, Winnipeg, requesting that each of the three parties to the Tri-Party Funding Agreement give permission to extend the term of the existing agreement until October 31st, 1992, or until such time as the Winnipeg Sport Facility Committee can complete its initial recommendations, modify if required, inform the recipients, and to ensure that the necessary funding and access agreements are in place for each project. (Copy on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

On April 21st, 1992, the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture concurred in the request that the termination date of the Tri-Party Funding Agreement be extended.

Your Executive Policy Committee recommends that the request be granted, and that the termination date of the Tri-Party Funding Agreement be extended from March 31st, 1992 to October 31st, 1992 or until such time as the program is completed.

Your Committee further recommends that the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to effect the intent of the above recommendation.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Fleisher,
That Council recess for one hour.

The motion was put and declared carried.

Council recessed at 6:30 p.m.

Council reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

Same members present, except for Councillors O'Shaughnessy and Yuen.

Councillor Yuen entered to the meeting after Council had reconvened.

(SEE PAGES 1176 – 1198 FOR OFFICIAL SET OF MINUTES FOR ATTACHMENT.)

(SEE PAGES 1199 – 1201 FOR OFFICIAL SET OF MINUTES FOR ATTACHMENT.)

(SEE PAGES 1202 – 1216 FOR OFFICIAL SET OF MINUTES FOR ATTACHMENT.)

(SEE PAGES 1217 – 1223 FOR OFFICIAL SET OF MINUTES FOR ATTACHMENT.)
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Moved by Councillor Hyman,
Seconded by Councillor Diamant,
873 - WHEREAS the new ward boundaries reflect an increase of approximately 2 1/2 times the size of the present wards;

AND WHEREAS in the present By-law No. 5550/90, Election Expenses and Contributions By-law, the total campaign expenses incurred by a registered candidate in an election for the office of Mayor shall not exceed the aggregate amount of $0.50 per elector;

AND WHEREAS in the present By-law No. 5550/90 the total campaign expenses incurred by a registered candidate in an election for the office of Councillor shall not exceed the amount determined by multiplying $1.25 by the number of electors in the ward;

AND WHEREAS only contributions from a single source in excess of $250.00 presently have to be named and address listed (Form 4 - page 4A and page 4B);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:-

1) That campaign expenses incurred by a registered candidate in an election for the office of Mayor shall not exceed the aggregate amount of $0.25 per elector and;

2) That the total campaign expenses incurred by a registered candidate in an election for the office of Councillor shall not exceed the amount determined by multiplying $0.65 by the number of electors in the ward and;

3) That all contributions from a single source in excess of $50.00 be listed by name and address on Form 4 (page 4A and page 4B) of the Auditor's Report of the Campaign Expenses and Contributions By-law No. 5550/90.

Councillor Eadie called the Acting Speaker, Councillor Demare, to the Chair in order to participate in the debate and after speaking resumed the Chair.

Councillor Yuen entered the meeting.

The Speaker here drew to the attention of Council the following motion which proposes to add a fourth resolution to the above motion, namely:-

Moved by Councillor Mitchelson,
Seconded by Councillor Fraser,
874 - THAT any registered candidate in an election for the office of Mayor or Councillor or their Agent or other persons acting on their behalf shall not solicit funds from any Union representing Civic Employees or any Union organization affiliated with said Civic Unions.

The Speaker ruled that this motion, as an amendment, is out of order, as it is inconsistent with The City of Winnipeg Act which does permit contributions from unions.

The Speaker ruled automatic referral of the motion to Executive Policy Committee.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
That the question be now put.

Carried.

The Speaker advised that each recommendation in the motion will be considered separately.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays on each recommendation.
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN (continued)

Recommendation No. 1 was put.

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Duguid, Hyman, Mendelson, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas, Timmers and Yuen. 11

Nay: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Douglas, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Golden, Kaufmann, Lorenc, Mitchelson, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 15

and Recommendation No. 1 was declared lost.

Recommendation No. 2 was put.

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Douglas, Duguid, Hyman, Mendelson, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas, Timmers, Yuen and Eadie. 13

Nay: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Golden, Kaufmann, Lorenc, Mitchelson, Prystanski, Young and Mayor Norrie. 13

and Recommendation No. 2 was declared lost, in accordance with Section 58 of the Procedure By-law.

Recommendation No. 3 was put.

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Diamant, Duguid, Golden, Hyman, Mendelson, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas, Timmers and Yuen. 12

Nay: Councillors Brown, Clement, Demare, Douglas, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Kaufmann, Lorenc, Mitchelson, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 14

and Recommendation No. 3 was declared lost.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTIONS

Moved by Councillor Douglas,
Seconded by Councillor Fraser,
875 - THAT Mr. Todd Pennell, 215 Winchester Street, be appointed to the Winnipeg Public Library Board as the second representative for the St. James-Assiniboia Community for a term to expire January, 1994.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Lorenc,
Seconded by Councillor Fraser,
876 - WHEREAS the Council of the City of Winnipeg by virtue of recent amendments to The City of Winnipeg Act is being reduced in size from 29 to 15 Councillors plus the Mayor, effective with the elections of October, 1992;

AND WHEREAS as a consequence of the reduction in size of Council, the role, function and description of the office will be deemed to be full time versus the current part time;

AND WHEREAS the position of Mayor of the City of Winnipeg is and will continue to be deemed a full time position;

AND WHEREAS the size of the wards as a result of the reduction is being increased by an approximate multiple of 2.5;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that municipal government which is "closest to the people", be accessible to the people in terms of opportunity for election to office;
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – MOTIONS (continued)

AND WHEREAS it is desirable and in the interests of municipal government and democracy to ensure the infusion of new people and ideas with some degree of regularity;

AND WHEREAS given the reduction in size of Council to 15 full time offices, the political advantages of incumbency will make it more difficult for political aspirants to defeat incumbents for the office of Councillor or Mayor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Winnipeg petition the Government of the Province of Manitoba to legislatively, by further amendments to The City of Winnipeg Act, set a maximum of 3 consecutive terms of office for the position of Councillor and that of Mayor, beginning with the term of office commencing November, 1992.

Required to Stand as Notice of Motion.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

877 - WHEREAS Councillor Wade has tendered his resignation from City Council, representing Notre Dame Ward, effective May 5th, 1992;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Wade has served the citizens of Winnipeg with distinction and dignity over the years after first being elected to City Council in October, 1962;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Wade represented Ward 2 on the former City of Winnipeg City Council for the years 1963 and 1964, and 1966 to 1971 inclusive;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Wade was elected to City Council for the unified City of Winnipeg in October, 1971, and represented the residents of Weston Ward for the years 1972 to 1977, and later Notre Dame Ward for the years 1978 to the time of his resignation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council extend congratulations to Mr. Wade on his retirement from City Council and to wish him and Mrs. Wade good health during his retirement.

Carried.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Seconded by Councillor Brown,

878 - WHEREAS Section 93(4) of The City of Winnipeg Act provides that where the office of a councillor becomes vacant within six months of the expiration of the councillor's term of office, Council may resolve not to hold an election to fill the vacancy for the balance of the term;

AND WHEREAS Councillor Alan Wade has tendered his resignation from City Council, representing Notre Dame Ward, effective Tuesday, May 5th, 1992;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an election to fill the vacancy in Notre Dame Ward for the balance of the term of former Councillor Alan Wade not be held, in accordance with Section 93(4) of The City of Winnipeg Act in view of the impending general municipal election to be held on Wednesday, October 28th, 1992.

Councillor Thomas called for the motion to Stand as Notice.
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – MOTIONS (continued)

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Seconded by Councillor Selinger,
879 - WHEREAS Councillor Wade has tendered his resignation from City Council, effective May 5th, 1992;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare an amendment to the City's Organization By-law No. 4444/86, Section 4(1)(a), to provide that the Committee on Finance and Administration shall consist of five members including the chairman, for the duration of former Councillor Wade's term of office.

Carried.

Moved by Mayor Norrie,
Seconded by Councillor Brown,
880 - WHEREAS Frank N. Steele, Q.C., City Solicitor, after 33 years of Civic Service, will commence his pre-retirement from the Civic Service on May 15th, 1992, and his official retirement on August 24th, 1992;
AND WHEREAS Mr. Steele after his call to the Bar in 1959, joined the Law Department of the former City of Winnipeg;
AND WHEREAS upon the formation of the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg, Mr. Steele left his position with the City of Winnipeg Law Department to become an employee of the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg in June, 1961;
AND WHEREAS in September 1967 Mr. Steele was appointed Deputy Corporation Counsel;
AND WHEREAS upon amalgamation in 1972 of both the City of Winnipeg and the Law Departments of the City and Metro, Mr. Steele continued as one of the three Deputies under the City Solicitor, Duncan C. Lennox, Q.C.;
AND WHEREAS Mr. Steele was appointed City Solicitor by City Council on June 3rd, 1979, and on December 20th, 1989, was appointed Queen's Counsel;
AND WHEREAS Mr. Steele has diligently served this City and has shared his knowledge and assisted the Administration and the Members of Council;
AND WHEREAS Mr. Steele has discharged the responsibility of his position with distinction and to the benefit of all who were fortunate to work with him;
BE IT RESOLVED that this Council place on record its warmest appreciation and thanks for his long and faithful service;
AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that Council express to Frank and his wife Sybil, its best wishes for good health and a long and pleasurable retirement.

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Fraser,
Seconded by Councillor Fleisher,
881 - WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg continues to suffer significantly from "cross border" shopping;
AND WHEREAS the City and the Province spend millions of dollars on tourism development;
AND WHEREAS Provincial legislation restricts many Winnipeg businesses from opening on Sundays and forces others to operate understaffed;
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – MOTIONS (continued)

AND WHEREAS tourists who are attracted to Winnipeg for a weekend want to shop in Winnipeg stores and are prevented from doing so by this Provincial legislation;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg retailers who open on Sundays cannot provide the normal level of customer service that they do Monday through Friday, due to this restrictive legislation;

AND WHEREAS experts on "cross border shopping" recommend that governments introduce Sunday shopping as one important ingredient to combat "cross border shopping" by Canadians;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg retailers need a "level playing field" to compete with out-of-province markets such as Grand Forks and Fargo, particularly on Sundays;

AND WHEREAS other Provincial Governments either provide Sunday shopping opportunities unrestricted or are considering introducing such permissive legislation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor meet with the Premier and appropriate Provincial Ministers to urge them to initiate immediate legislative change to permit Sunday shopping in the Province of Manitoba which would permit retailers in particular to open fully staffed, thereby presenting an "open for business" environment for visitors and citizens of our Province and the City of Winnipeg.

Required to Stand as Notice of Motion

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

882 - On motion of Mayor Norrie, the rule was suspended and By-law No. 5949/92, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg to provide for the form and manner of storage of its realty tax rolls, was read a first, second and third time, the rule being suspended for third reading and was passed and ordered to be signed and sealed. File No. FL-2.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

QUESTION PERIOD

883 - Councillor Boychuk enquired as to the status of the special Committee's deliberations with respect to the proposed pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Portage Avenue and Main Street.

Mayor Norrie replied that several meetings had been held. However, the consensus of Committee was that the City would not be able, without the concurrence of the one corner owner who had a legal objection, to take further action in this regard. No further meetings are contemplated at this time.

Councillor Prystanski asked when the North Main Ad Hoc Committee would be convening its first meeting.

Mayor Norrie replied that he would take the question as notice and speak to the Chairman of the Committee.

Councillor Murray enquired as to the status of discussions relative to the Core Area Initiatives and when an update would be provided on the progress of these negotiations.
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – QUESTION PERIOD (continued)

Mayor Norrie responded, advising Council that another meeting is expected to be held this Friday, and if all goes well, the matter will come forward outlining details of the program.

Councillor Fraser enquired as to when a report from the Pan Am Games Bid Committee might be expected.

Mayor Norrie replied that he did not know the exact date, although he and the Minister met with the Co-Chair this morning. His Worship undertook to obtain the date when this matter will be coming forward to the Executive Policy Committee.

Councillor Fraser drew attention to the recent resignation from the membership of the Board of Adjustment and asked that Mayor Norrie advise Council how the replacement will occur.

Mayor Norrie advised that the replacement will be handled in the same manner as all appointments are filled and ultimately come to Council for appointment as were the other appointees to the Board.

In response to a question from Councillor Mitchelson as to the status of the Pan Am Committee, Mayor Norrie advised that as far as he is aware the Pan Am Committee is still in existence; the meeting he had referred to earlier did not constitute a meeting of the Pan Am Committee, but was simply an update for the Minister and himself. Councillor Mitchelson made reference to the agreement between the Province, the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Jets and asked the Mayor to share with Council when this agreement will be put forward to the various groups for signing.

Mayor Norrie replied that the solicitors involved are still working on the agreement, but when their work has been completed it is intended that a briefing be held for the members of Executive Policy Committee and all members of Council.

Councillor Hyman asked whether the City intends to respond to the statement made by the Honourable Harry Enns, regarding a funding of $200,000.00 for private property owners, relative to Dutch Elm Disease control.

Mayor Norrie responded that he met with the group headed by Ms Singh and Judy Werier and had undertaken to them that he would call Mr. Enns in the above regard. Mayor Norrie also advised Council that the matter will be again raised at the Official Delegation meeting.

Councillor Hyman asked whether there has been any thought to duplicate the public works program between the City and the Province with respect to cost-sharing in terms of the Dutch Elm Disease or any other environmental program.

Mayor Norrie replied that the City and the Province are already substantial partners, and what the City needs to do is have the funding restored to the previous cost sharing arrangement.

The Speaker here acknowledged the presence in the gallery, of a former Council colleague and now the Minister of Government Services, the Honorable Gerry Ducharme, and welcomed him on behalf of all members of Council.

Councillor Golden raised a question concerning the vacancy on the Board of Adjustment.

Mayor Norrie replied that this matter has not been before the Executive Policy Committee since the resignation was announced, but is expected to be at its next meeting.
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE – QUESTION PERIOD (continued)

Councillor Golden asked the Mayor whether or not there had been a previous commitment by the Executive Policy Committee to appoint the seventh candidate in the event there was a vacancy on the Board.

Mayor Norrie replied that he would check the record, and reiterated that the matter will be before the Executive Policy Committee for a recommendation to Council.

Councillor Golden indicated questions have been raised about the environmental condition of the land that was purchased at The Forks, and copy of a report in this regard has been requested by the news media. Councillor Golden asked if and when the report will be made available and to what use the City intends to put the land.

Mayor Norrie replied that because the land had been used as a rail yard, there was some question raised by the City at the time of purchase, as to whether there might be contaminants in the soil; the vendor has submitted a report to the City in confidence, which would require the consent of the sender to be released. The Mayor advised the report has been examined by the City and although it is not felt the nature of the contaminant to be significant, it would probably require the removal of some soil when development occurs. Mayor Norrie added that any plans for use of the site would come forward to Council in due course.