



**PUBLIC MINUTES  
GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

**Monday, March 15, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Via Teleconference Hosted in the Council Chamber, Saskatoon City Hall**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Z. Jeffries, Chair  
His Worship Mayor C. Clark  
Councillor C. Block  
Councillor T. Davies  
Councillor R. Donauer  
Councillor B. Dubois  
Councillor S. Gersher  
Councillor H. Gough  
Councillor D. Kirton  
Councillor M. Loewen

**ABSENT:** Councillor D. Hill

**ALSO PRESENT:** City Manager J. Jorgenson  
Interim City Clerk M. Jordan, in the Chamber  
City Solicitor C. Yelland, in the Chamber  
Committee Assistant J. Hudson, in the Chamber

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis People. Roll call was taken.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

**Moved By:** Councillor Gough

1. That Colin Priestner, Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club, be heard during Item 6.1;
2. That a letter submitting comments from Randy Pshebylo, Riversdale BID, dated March 15, 2021, be included with Item 8.2.2;
3. That a resignation and appointment(s) to the Public Art Advisory Committee be added to the closed session as Item 13.2; and
4. That the agenda be confirmed as amended.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen  
Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved By:** Councillor Dubois

That the minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting held on February 16, 2021, be adopted.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen  
Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**6. COMMUNICATIONS (requiring the direction of the Committee)**

**6.1 Operations and Management of SaskTel Centre (CK 611-3)**

A letter from Mike Priestner, Owner of Priestner Sports Group | Go Auto, was provided with respect to the above.

City Manager Jorgenson introduced the matter.

Colin Priestner, General Manager / Partner, Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club was in attendance via teleconference to present the proposal letter.

The speaker and the Administration answered questions of Committee.

**Moved By:** Councillor Gersher

That the information be received.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen  
Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By:** Councillor Davies

That the Administration report on options available to Council with respect to the letter from the Priestner Group.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen  
Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7. REQUESTS TO SPEAK (new matters)**

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS**

**8.1 Information Reports**

**8.2 Approval Reports**

**8.2.1 Deferral Report - Review and Feedback on Local Government Elections (CK 265-2020-01)**

A report of the Interim City Clerk was provided. Interim City Clerk Jordan presented the report.

**Moved By:** Councillor Loewen

That consideration of a report from the returning officer be deferred to the April 19, 2021, Governance and Priorities Committee meeting.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen  
Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **8.2.2 Deferral Report – Advisory Committee Governance Review – Community Wellbeing and Safety Advisory Committee (CK 225-84 x 225-1)**

A report of the City Solicitor was provided, along with a letter submitting comments from Randy Pshebylo, Riversdale BID, dated March 15, 2021.

City Solicitor Yelland presented the report and answered questions of Committee, along with General Manager, Community Services Division Lacroix.

**Moved By:** Councillor Gough

That consideration of a Community Wellbeing and Safety Advisory Committee be referred to the process to establish a community safety and wellbeing plan for the City of Saskatoon.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting recessed at 11:04 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

## **8.3 Decision Reports**

### **8.3.1 Absences and Support for City Councillors (CK 4560-1 x 255-1 x 1700-1)**

A report of the City Solicitor was provided.

City Solicitor Yelland presented the report and answered questions of Committee.

**Moved By:** Councillor Dubois

That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend to City Council that the consideration and development of a leave of absence policy for members of Council be referred to the Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission (Option 1) as outlined in the report of the City Solicitor dated March 15, 2021.

IN AMENDMENT

**Moved By:** Councillor Loewen

That instead of Option 1 as outlined in the report of the City Solicitor dated March 15, 2021, the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That the consideration and development of a leave of absence policy for members of Council be referred to the Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission to bring back some options regarding short and long term leaves, not later than the June GPC meeting, including options for a hybrid of support; and
2. That the Administration report back on options for an Employee Family Assistance Program equivalent for members of Council.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By:** Mayor Clark

That the Governance and Priorities Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That the \$21,000 contingency fund, approved as outlined in the report of the City Solicitor dated December 10, 2018, continue to be available to Council members; and
2. That the Administration report back on options and implementation dates for additional benefits.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9. MOTIONS (notice previously given)**

**10. GIVING NOTICE**

**11. URGENT BUSINESS**

**12. VERBAL UPDATES**

**12.1 Council Members - His Worship the Mayor, FCM/SUMA, Boards, Committees and Commissions**

**12.2 Administration**

**12.2.1 Covid-19 Update (CK 270-7)**

Pamela Goulden-McLeod, Director of Emergency Management Organization, was present to provide a Covid-19 update and complementary PowerPoint recounting the last year.

General Manager, Community Services Division Lacroix, provided an update with respect to an increase in recreation and leisure opportunities, and a partnership with the University to allow Lions Arena to facilitate learn to skate programs. She answered questions of Committee.

**13. IN CAMERA SESSION**

**Moved By:** Councillor Gough

That the Committee move *In Camera* to consider the following items.

In Favour (10): Mayor Clark, Councillor Block, Councillor Davies, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, Councillor Kirton, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (1): Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**13.1 Resignations and Appointments - Downtown Saskatoon BID Board of Management (CK 175-48)**

*[In Camera - Consultations/Deliberations; Personal Information - Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 LAFOIP]*

**13.2 Resignations and Appointment - Public Art Advisory Committee (CK 175-58)**

*[In Camera - Consultations/Deliberations; Personal Information - Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 LAFOIP]*

### **13.3 Verbal Updates**

#### **13.3.1 Council Members - His Worship the Mayor; FCM/SUMA; Boards, Committees & Commissions (if required)**

##### **13.3.1.1 Personnel Subcommittee (CK 225-81)**

*[In Camera - Personnel Matter - Sections 16(1)(c) and (d) LAFOIP]*

#### **13.3.2 Administration**

##### **13.3.2.1 City Manager**

*[Sections 13, 14(1), 15(1), 16(1), 17(1), 18(1), 19 and 20 LAFOIP]*

##### **13.3.2.2 Negotiations Update (CK 4720-6)**

*[In Camera - Labour/Personnel Matter - Section 16(1)(c) and (d) LAFOIP]*

### **14. RISE AND REPORT**

The Committee convened *In Camera* at 12:18 p.m. with the following in attendance via teleconference:

- All Committee members, except Councillor Hill
- City Manager Jorgenson

Interim City Clerk Jordan, City Solicitor Yelland, and Committee Assistant Hudson were in attendance in the Council Chamber.

Councillor Davies left the meeting following the *In Camera* session.

The Committee moved to rise and report at 1:44 p.m. and reconvened publicly immediately thereafter to reports as follows:

#### **Agenda Items 13.1. and 13.2. – Appointments to Downtown Saskatoon Business Improvement District Board of Management and Public Art Advisory Committee (Files CK 175-48 and 175-58)**

**Moved By:** Councillor Kirton

1. That the recommended appointments and any further direction, as noted by the Interim City Clerk, with respect to the Downtown Business Improvement District Board of Management and the Public Art Advisory Committee be forwarded to City Council for approval; and

2. That the discussion and a portion of the submitted information remain *In Camera* under Sections 16(1)(b) and (d) and 28 of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (9): Councillor Kirton, Councillor Block, Mayor Clark, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (2): Councillor Davies, and Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Agenda Item 13.3.1. - Verbal Updates - Council Members**

**Moved by:** Councillor Kirton

That the verbal updates of the Members of Council be received as information and that the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 28 of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (9): Councillor Kirton, Councillor Block, Mayor Clark, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (2): Councillor Davies, and Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Agenda Item 13.3.1.1. - Personnel Subcommittee (File CK 225-81)**

**Moved By:** Councillor Kirton

That the Personnel Subcommittee proceed as discussed; and that the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 16(1)(c) and (d) of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (9): Councillor Kirton, Councillor Block, Mayor Clark, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (2): Councillor Davies, and Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Agenda Item 13.3.2.1. - Verbal Updates - Administration**

**Moved By:** Councillor Kirton

That the verbal updates of the City Manager be received as information and that the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 28 of *LAFOIP*.



In Favour (9): Councillor Kirton, Councillor Block, Mayor Clark, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (2): Councillor Davies, and Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Agenda Item 13.3.2.2. – Negotiations Update (File CK 4720-6)**

**Moved By:** Councillor Kirton

That the information be received and that the discussion remain *In Camera* under Sections 16(1)(c) and (d) of *LAFOIP*.

In Favour (9): Councillor Kirton, Councillor Block, Mayor Clark, Councillor Donauer, Councillor Dubois, Councillor Gersher, Councillor Gough, Councillor Jeffries, and Councillor Loewen

Absent (2): Councillor Davies, and Councillor Hill

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

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Councillor Z. Jeffries, Chair

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M. Jordan, Interim City Clerk