

Temporary chiefs named in E. Kildonan

City council agreed Wednesday to fill two top East Kildonan fire department posts on a temporary basis, until a report on the amalgamation of all Winnipeg fire services has been prepared.

The East Kildonan community committee had recommended that former North Kildonan chief D. L. Tymko be named the new deputy chief and Harry Mallows, former East Kildonan chief, be named chief of the amalgamated fire services.

The appointment of the deputy fire chief was opposed Monday by the East Kildonan Fire Fighters Association on the grounds that East Kildonan firemen with substantially longer experience had been overlooked.

Coun. Dick Wankling (ICEC - Wildwood), said the appointments had been considered by the executive policy committee, which agreed it would be wiser to fill the positions on a temporary basis, pending the findings of a study into amalgamation of city fire services.

A motion introduced by Coun. Jim Smith (Ind-Leighton) amending the recommendation to make the appointments permanent, was defeated in a 36-to-10 vote.

Coun. Smith argued that East Kildonan and North Kildonan had "difficulties enough" as a result of the amalgamation of services in the two communities. He said the East Kildonan community needed a fire chief, or employee morale problems would result.

Coun. Robert Steen (ICEC - Westminster) said the city had adopted a policy that all positions to be filled must be advertised within employee ranks. He said this had not been done for the two fire positions, because "we did not want to be tied down to a permanent appointment until we have had a chance to assess the overall amalgamation question."

Council also agreed Wednesday to set aside \$11,800 to cover costs involved in integrating the East Kildonan and North Kildonan communities.