

The Corporation of The City of Dryden

April 9, 2019

Minutes of the Police Costing Committee Meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on the above date in the Boardroom 1 at City Hall.

Present: Chair CAO R. Nesbitt, Treasurer S. Lansdell-Roll, Councillor M. MacKinnon, Councillor D. McKay, Police Chief D. Palson, Police Services Board Chair J. Green, Mr. A. Skene and Deputy Clerk A. Euler.

Present
by Councillor N. Bush.
Phone:

Absent: Councillor J. Carlucci and City Clerk D. Kincaid.

1. Call to Order:

Chair R. Nesbitt called the meeting to order at 4:58 p.m.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature thereof:

(a) For the agenda for this meeting:

Chair Mr. Nesbitt called for declarations of Pecuniary Interest, and the general nature thereof, under The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act with respect to the Agenda for this meeting and the response was negative.

3. Additions to or deletions from the agenda:

Chair Mr. Nesbitt asked if there were any additions or deletions to be made to the agenda and Committee agreed to add discussion on committee member indemnification to the agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes:

(a) March 12, 2019.

- 1** **Skene** ***THAT the Minutes of the March 12, 2019 Police***
 McKay ***Costing Committee Meeting be approved.***
 - CARRIED.

5. Agenda Items:

- (a) Survey Results - CAO.

Mr. Nesbitt advised he would have the summarized survey results posted to the City's website but stated he doesn't support sharing the comments publicly. He asked the voting committee members for their thoughts. The four members in attendance were opposed to sharing the comments, noting potential legal ramifications of doing so, but Councillor Bush spoke to the misinformation seen in the comments and that posting the comments would allow for the misinformation to be addressed. In the end, it was agreed that the comments would not be shared publicly, and Mr. Nesbitt asked Councillor Bush to submit any themes or comments with misinformation that he thinks should be addressed, perhaps as a Questions and Answers item on the City's website. Discussion took place about sharing the comments with all members of Council and again, Mr. Nesbitt asked the voting committee members for their thoughts. They all felt it was appropriate to share the comments in a Closed Meeting of Council and Ms. Green advised she would share the comments with the members of the Police Services Board in a Closed Session.

- (b) Historical Policing Cost Analysis (FIR) and Community Policing Cost Comparison - CAO.

Mr. Nesbitt spoke to the topic of the City's Financial Information Returns not being used by MNP to do the 15-year financial projection. He distributed a spreadsheet comparing the historical FIR Police Protection Costs and the MNP Financial Projection Costs for DPS. Mr. Nesbitt noted the annual average increase from 2003 to 2017 was 3.95% without normalizing the dispatch outsourcing and not using the 2018 and 2019 unconfirmed costs and the MNP average projected annual increase over the 15 years was 4.17%. Councillor Bush advised the only reason Council had requested a costing was because members had heard they could save between \$1 million and \$1.5 million annually with the OPP. Councillor MacKinnon agreed with Councillor Bush noting Council had looked for cost savings in all City

departments and had do its due diligence to investigate this possible cost saving.

(c) Update on OPP Questions and Comments - CAO.

Mr. Nesbitt advised all written questions and answers had been posted to the City's website. He advised one of his recent questions to the OPP had been to ask if civilian employees of DPS would be considered ahead of other applicants to the OPP in an amalgamation situation and he'd been told they would be. He noted the fact that Post-Retirement benefits had been discussed a few meetings ago and that he'd been asking the OPP for information on this since then. Most recently he'd been told his question had been forwarded to the OPP Association. He advised DPS members want answers on this issue before a decision is made and the City also needs this information as it could affect severance costs. Mr. Nesbitt has pointed out to the OPP that DPS members seem to be able to get this information from their OPPA contacts, but that the OPPA won't provide it to the City of Dryden before a decision is made. Mr. Nesbitt also mentioned that the OPP seem reluctant to commit to timing of the completion of an amalgamation.

(d) Polling/Engaging DPS Members - CAO.

Discussion on surveying DPS members directly took place. It was decided not to pursue this.

(e) DPS Liabilities – Chief Palson.

Chief Palson spoke to the inherent risks associated with policing. He began by advising that the transportation of mental health patients from Dryden to Kenora is a liability that the DPS doesn't need to assume that the practice would be ended. He advised he would be notifying the Dryden Regional Health Centre and his officers of this change. Committee members advised they understood wanting to keep an ambulance in the community rather than transporting mental health patients out of town, but the Kenora District Services Board and the Hospital need to lobby the province for improved land ambulance service in Dryden. Chief Palson advised he would not be changing his stance on DPS officers attending ambulance calls if they are available to do so. He advised that the Hospital had only asked

DPS to provide mental health security 4 or 5 times in 2018 and that when that happens, DPS calls someone in on overtime and bills the costs back to the Hospital. Chief Palson noted proper policies and procedures are very important in policing and spoke to the DPS policies and procedures surrounding such issues as arrest and detention, use of force, prisoner handling and lodging and guarding. He noted the need for up-to-date equipment and protective gear for DPS members and having Naloxone available to officers in case of exposure to opiates. Chief Palson advised the DPS vehicles are on regular maintenance schedules, the cells were upgraded a few years ago and the DPS facility meets certification requirements. He spoke to the need for training in many areas such as use of force, supervision and working in a respectful workplace. Chief Palson noted that in the event of a suspicious death or murder, the DPS calls upon the OPP Major Crimes Unit for assistance. Finally, he spoke to the need to recruit and hire right, noting hiring the right people pays dividends down the road. Mr. Lansdell-Roll advised that in the case of a legal issue, the City has liability insurance for the DPS but would not cover employment related severance.

(f) Affordability of Initial OPP Costs - Treasurer.

Mr. Lansdell-Roll spoke to the OPP proposal. He advised the initial costs to amalgamate, should that be Council's decision, would be operational and as the City cannot borrow for operational expenses, existing reserves would have to be used. He advised that at the end of 2019 he expects there will be approximately \$4.1 million in reserves after taking out the Gas Tax funds which could not be used to pay for amalgamation. Mr. Lansdell-Roll cautioned against exhausting the City's reserves as some will be required for the 2020 Capital Plan. He noted for each of the 3+ years, the cost under the OPP is projected to increase at a higher rate than the projected cost with the DPS. He advised the City could extend some of its debt repayment to 2023 or look to a tax increase to cover the projected costs in the 3+ year period. Committee members spoke to the fact that the costs of disbandment and post retirement benefits are still unknown.

(g) Date for Committee Recommendation to Council and Additional Committee Meeting Dates That May be Required - CAO.

Mr. Nesbitt advised the committee needs to target a date to make its recommendation to Council, noting the City has until May 28, 2019 to provide its response to the OPP. Discussion on what the report to Council would look like took place and Mr. Nesbitt advised he would need to have a recommendation from the committee in order to draft a report to Council. Following discussion, committee decided to schedule another meeting for Monday, April 15, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. for further discussion on the report and for voting committee members to provide a recommendation to Mr. Nesbitt. Committee agreed to present the recommendation to Council on May 2, 2019.

(h) Indemnification of Committee Members – PSB Chair.

In response to a question asked by Ms. Green, Mr. Lansdell-Roll advised that committee members were appointed by Council and are not the group actually making the decision to amalgamate or not. He advised committee members are covered under the City's Indemnification Policy.

6. Adjournment:

(a) Adjournment:

2 McKay *THAT this meeting do hereby adjourn.*
Mackinnon - CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.