Police Costing Committee Meeting

December 7, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Held via Teams

Present: Councillor M. Price, Councillor M. MacKinnon, Councillor N. Bush, CAO R. Nesbitt, Treasurer S. Lansdell-Roll and Acting Clerk A. Euler of the City of Dryden Police Costing Committee. Chad Lins, Victoria Penner and Caitlin Brown of MNP LLP.

Absent: None.

Following introductions, attendees discussed stakeholders to be involved in the process beyond those listed on the agenda. Suggestions included the DPS, including the DPS Chief, Police Services Board and both employee associations, the O.P.P., NWEMS and Dryden Fire Service.

There's a need to explore the increase in the crime rate with both DPS and the O.P.P. to try to understand the gap between the staffing models of DPS and the O.P.P. Also ask both forces how drugs effect their manning and how other social issues and the transient population work into officer capacity requirements. We need to confirm any significant changes since the last study.

MNP advised they would need to access the DPS 2019 and 2020 financials as well as updated information on the number of households and industrial buildings in Dryden.

Roger advised we need to calculate numbers the way the O.P.P. does, noting they exclude some properties from the MPAC count while adding to the MPAC property count for multi-residential properties. He also advised the City will have to calculate new severance costs as they'll be different from the previous study.

It was noted that the MNP report needs to include an Executive Summary to focus on elements that are important to communicate (ie. costs, levels of service and the overall number of officers that would be available for policing the community). It was suggested the members of the Dryden Police Services Board be asked if they would feel loss of control should an amalgamation happen.

The suggested benchmarking communities were discussed. Roger advised he'd supply the four (4) from the City's recent Service Delivery Review to Chad. He advised he'd also provide names of any municipalities he knew of looking to move away from O.P.P. and contract with neighbouring communities for MNP to reach out to. Roger suggested other communities that had recently switched to the OPP.

Chad advised MNP would provide a list of what they need from the City to Roger.

Discussion about the timing of any potential acceptance of an O.P.P. proposal took place.

Victoria recommended obtaining the O.P.P.'s current Organizational Chart and amending it to show DPS officers.

Roger advised he expects the City will receive the O.P.P. proposal in Q1 of 2021. MNP will update the new report with the O.P.P. information once it is received which will then allow for public engagement, keeping in mind the COVID environment.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.