



**Ottawa Police Service Board  
Finance and Audit Committee  
Minutes**

**Meeting #:** 34

**Date:** October 10, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Location:** Electronic Participation

**Present:** Cathy Curry, Steve Desroches

**Absent:** Dave Donaldson

**Others:** S. Fakirani; P. Henschel; M. Polowin; E. Stubbs, Chief; P. Burnett, Deputy Chief; S. Bell, Deputy Chief; T. Ferguson, Deputy Chief; H. Sayah; R. Ben Gue Dria; S. Yasseen; B. Mallon; S. Badaravada; D. Agudelo; A. Jan; B. Merklinger; C. Hopgood; J. Steinbachs; M. Visser; N. Shureih

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The Committee appointed Member C. Curry as the temporary Chair for the October 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 Finance and Audit Committee, noting that Chair D. Donaldson is absent from the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Agenda

**That the Ottawa Police Service Board's Finance and Audit Committee confirm the agenda of the 10 October 2025 meeting.**

**Carried**

2. Confirmation of Minutes

2.1 Minutes #33 of 5 September 2025

**That the Ottawa Police Service Board's Finance and Audit Committee confirm Minutes #33 of the 5 September 2025 meeting.**

**Carried**

3. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

4. Items of Business

4.1 2026 Budget Consultation Results

Presentation

Chief E. Stubbs noted that the presentation responds to the Board's request for updates on community feedback and data insights and that it is a foundation for upcoming budget discussions.

The Committee commented that communities are facing challenging times, with residents impacted by a wide range of issues. While some of these issues are outside police control, the public often looks to the police for solutions. The Service gave the example of traffic enforcement to illustrate how multiple layers such as speed bumps, signage, automated cameras, and police enforcement intersect to address issues. The police frequently act as a "lightning rod" for public frustration given their visible role in managing these complex situations such as demonstrations.

The Committee inquired how the staff stabilization plan will lower 911 call wait times. The Service advised that the lengthy wait times issue is not a staff effort issue but a resource allocation issue. The Staff Stabilization Plan aims to address this by increasing frontline resources to respond to calls faster. The Service will also reassess the 42-person minimum staffing level for the frontline which is outdated and will determine an optimal staffing level to ensure proper coverage. A new dashboard is being developed to help monitor call management in real time which will track response times, and the number of officers assigned to incidents.

The Committee noted that feedback from the community was also collected through targeted sessions and not just through surveys and quantitative data. The Police Liaison Teams and the community police officers provide valuable qualitative data that can be collected and used to inform decisions. The Committee asked if input can also be received from the neighbourhood watch groups around the city. The Service advised that the neighbourhood watch captains are a key conduit to gaining more input directly from the community.

The Committee asked if the broader political climate in Canada and globally was considered when analyzing the survey results. M. Visser of Advanis explained that the survey was conducted over a two-month period to reduce the impact of specific events that might influence results. While these steps relieve some effects, they cannot eliminate them entirely.

The Service explained how increased enforcement can create the perception of rising crime. For example, expanding the drug or hate crime units could lead to more arrests and reported incidents, which might look like worsening conditions.

The Committee discussed the low rural statistics, noting the significant difference between West Carleton and Kanata North, despite their close proximity. N. Shureih of Envrionics explained that the differences in perceptions of policing between rural and urban areas are influenced by many factors and rural communities tend to experience fewer direct impacts from urban issues like gang violence. As a result, residents may view policing as less central to daily life.

**That the Ottawa Police Service Board's Finance and Audit Committee receive this presentation for information and discussion.**

**Received**

5. Other Business

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:39 am.

7. Next Meeting

Friday, November 21, 2025 - 10:00 AM