



Ottawa Police Services Board

Minutes 43

Monday, September 27 2021, 4:00 PM

Krista Ferraro, Executive Director

(613) 560-1270

Krista.Ferraro@ottawa.ca

Board Members:

Councillor D. Deans, B. Johnson, Councillor R. King, Councillor C. Meehan, D. Nirman, L.A. (Sandy) Smallwood, R. Swaita

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm the agenda of the 27 September 2021 meeting.

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES #41 OF 26 JULY 2021

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm Minutes #41 of the 26 July 2021 meeting.

CONFIRMED

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MINUTES

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - DRAFT MINUTES #15 OF 20 JULY, 2021

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this item for information.

RECEIVED

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

The Board heard from the following public delegates on a range of topics. The Board welcomed delegations to provide their preferred pronouns and the phonetic pronunciation of their names.

1. WENDY MITCHELL, SHELTER MOVERS
2. SAMANTHA MCALEESE
3. BAILEY GAUTHIER (SHE/THEY/THEM)
4. SAAMIA AHMED, VIVIC RESEARCH
5. CASSIE SLACK

Some of the topics and feedback expressed during the delegations included:

- Violence against women issues were raised and requests for support from the OPS were made.
- Comments were offered on the joint community consultation underway by the Board and the Service. Concerns were noted with regards to the number of sessions and the presence of the Board and OPS at the session. It was suggested that some of the questions were leading.
- The budget survey was criticized as being poorly worded.
- A question as to whether the OPS falls under the City's mandated vaccine policy. It was explained that the OPS was working with the SOA and the OPA to develop a policy, however they do not presently have one in place.

- The need for police to be de-tasked from mental health response.
- Calls for the Board to not approve the purchase of CEWs.

INQUIRIES

The following inquiry was raised when discussing item 7. Workforce Management Report: Second Quarter 2021.

Vice Chair Smallwood, Increase in Workplace Injury, Illness & Incident Report Forms, 2018 through 2021

Can the OPS please provide an explanation for the significant increase in Workplace Injury, Illness & Incident Report Forms received between 2018 and 2021? The Workforce Management Report demonstrates a steady increase without indicating the cause.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

Chair's report

Chair Deans delivered a verbal report, in which she spoke to the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the 2022 OPS budget process, the consulting work undertaken by PACE to assist the Board with community consultation, and the national police governance conference that the OPSB was hosting. Lastly, Chair Deans announce Blair Dunker as the new OPS CAO, set to begin in her role on December 6, 2021.

Her full report can be read [here](#).

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

2. CHIEF'S VERBAL REPORT

Chief's report

A copy of the Chief's verbal report is available [online](#).

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

3. BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF OTTAWA – REPORT ON OUTCOMES OF 2020 GRANT FUNDING

Presentation & Report

Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa CEO Adam Joiner provided a presentation, reviewing BCG Ottawa's 2020 accomplishments. Following Adam Joiner's presentation, commendation was offered for the work of BGC Ottawa.

A question was raised regarding the transition back to in-person programming, as well as how they managed virtually. Virtually, Mr. Joiner explained that participants were given access to 30 different online programs, including recreation and exercise classes. There were two staff in each space to ensure that the calls were monitored. It was noted that BCG Staff became leaders in programming as well as in entertainment.

BCG Ottawa has had their main sites open for in-person programming since the summer months. The only sites not yet open are those that they do not have access to. It was explained that BCG will continue monitoring legislation and will ensure that they are open for in-person programming as long as safely possible. Due to Covid-19 capacity restrictions, their programs are currently all full. If necessary, they will revisit their online model.

It was noted that BCG Ottawa is reviewing community opportunities and evaluating potential spaces. It was explained that there are no specific community requirements for a clubhouse to be opened, however their primary aim is to provide services to those with the least existing access.

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this presentation and report for information.

RECEIVED

4. ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF POLICE SERVICES BOARDS' LABOUR
RELATIONS SEMINAR FUNDING REQUEST

Executive Director's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve a \$1,500 Silver sponsorship for the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards' 2021 Virtual Labour Relations Seminar being held November 18, 2021.

CARRIED

5. 2022 BUDGET DIRECTIONS AND TIMETABLE

Chief's report

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

1. ROBIN BROWNE, 613-819 BLACK HUB (HE / HIM)
2. CHRIS GRINHAM
3. CHRIS HARRIS
4. ANDREA FREEDMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF JEWISH
FEDERATION OTTAWA
5. GREGG THOMSON, MADD OTTAWA
6. GLENN VAN GULIK, THE SALVATION ARMY
7. JULIA HAMER (SHE/THEY)
8. FARNAZ FARHANG (SHE/HER)
9. INEZ HILLEL, VIVIC RESEARCH
10. MARK MONAHAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OTTAWA BLUESFEST
11. SAM HERSH
12. MAE MASON (THEY/THEM)
13. MEGHAN POTASSE
14. LAURA SHANTZ
15. ANDREA PONCIA

Some of the points raised by delegations included:

- Praise for the 0 per cent base budget as stipulated in the report's recommendation.
- Concern with past tactics employed by the OPS to request funding from the Board.
- Concern with slow OPS response times, and calls for additional officers, investment in the mental health unit and investments in technology.
- Calls to defund coupled with calls to maintain the current services.
- A request for the paid duty policy of the OPS to be reviewed.
- Alternatives to police response were suggested.
- Local service providers with the potential for crisis response if properly resourced were referenced.

Following the delegations, the Board had the opportunity to raise their questions.

The Service explained that in order to remain committed to the consultation process, they were not able to estimate the amount of funding above the zero-base budget they may end up requesting. The Service committed to providing a full report on the consultation process once it concludes.

It was noted that despite the calls to defund, there are increased pressures on the OPS related to gun calls as well as a lack of capacity for handling issues such as cybercrimes, which have increased over the pandemic.

The concern many have with potentially increasing the OPS budget stems from the perception that by providing the Service with additional funding, there is then less funding available for other services that could in turn divert calls from the OPS. The OPS explained that they are investing in preventative resources, such as Neighbourhood Resource Teams, and will need to continue doing so in order to grow and integrate them fully. Investments such as this are aimed at reducing calls for service, which will contribute to the OPS requiring fewer resources in the future, however the transition takes time. The Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan was later referenced as a means to reduce crime and in turn alleviate pressures on the Service.

The OPS indicated being familiar with the zero-base budgeting method and noted intending to see it through provided the methodology be endorsed by the Board. It was further stated that StrategyCorp has implemented many zero-base

budgets and will be a helpful resource.

To implement a zero-base budget in 2022, the Service would need to reduce their membership by approximately 120 officers or find other efficiencies.

A point was raised regarding the need to factor in pandemic costs, and it was explained that this will be incorporated into the budget as a line item. There was federal funding provided for pandemic expenses in 2020 and 2021, however there will not be in 2022. The forecast outlined in the 2021 budget included 30 growth hires for 2022 and included the 3.6 per cent growth number. This is under consideration by the OPS.

The below recommendation was then carried by the Board, with Member Meehan dissenting.

The purpose of this report is to request formal confirmation of the Ottawa Police Service Board's (the Board) direction that the Ottawa Police Service (OPS):

- 1. Prepares a Draft 2022 Budget that:**
 - a) Assumes a 0 per cent increase as its base, with a detailed explanation of any additional funding beyond the 0 per cent (including any related inflationary and/or collective bargaining increases), required to ensure the provision of adequate and effective policing in the city of Ottawa in 2022; and,**
 - b) Provides a detailed option plan for investments in 2022 and beyond that will lead to the optimal allocation of current resources to match workload and the effective engagement of community assets to share response to specific service demands. The option plan will include investments required to achieve the Board's strategic priorities, as well as to continue the implementation of the OPS' multi-year plan for organizational and cultural change.**

CARRIED

- 2. Continues to work with the Board's Finance and Audit Committee (FAC), the FAC's Working Group and the Board's consulting firm, StrategyCorp in the development of the Draft 2022 Budget.**

CARRIED

6. LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT PURCHASE CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPONS (CEWS)

Chief's report

A question was raised regarding whether this item should be deferred until further budgetary decisions are made.

The Service explained that in both 2016 and in 2018, the Board approved plans to integrate CEWs into the organization. The purchase outlined in this report would be one of lifecycle management, as CEWs are identified as having an effective 5-year life.

A point was raised that the OPS have in the past donated CEWs to other organizations after they have reached the end of their lifecycles. This prompted a question as to why some organizations will still use them beyond the 5-year warranty.

The Service reiterated that the manufacturer does not recommend using them after 5-years have passed and that the warranty expires at that point. The OPS have not used CEWs beyond that as there are both liability and risk management issues.

It was explained that the Board had endorsed the Service's integration of CEWs, and that to decrease their number of usable CEWs would diminish the OPS' ability to abide by that Board direction.

The original CEW purchase was approved by the Board for the purposes of reducing the use of more lethal force. A suggestion was made that a report be brought forth demonstrating the success of CEWs in doing so prior to this lifecycle management purchase being made.

The Service noted that CEWs are undoubtedly an effective, less lethal use of force and provided high level statistics from 2020. There were 118 occasions where an OPS member demonstrated a CEW and gained compliance and another 75 incidents where a CEW was used, and compliance was received. In 2021 year-to-date, there have been 65 occurrences where members have demonstrated the CEW with compliance, and 56 times where incidents were dealt with a CEW with full compliance.

Without this lifecycle purchase, the OPS will not have enough CEWs by the third quarter of 2022.

The Board decided to defer this item until October, at which time they requested a report be brought forth outlining in greater detail the success of CEWs.

The item was then deferred with Member Swaita dissenting to the deferral.

That the Ottawa Police Services Board delegate authority to the Chief for the immediate purchase of 200 replacement Conducted Energy Weapons (CEW) for 2021 at a cost of \$682,112.78 (\$770,787.44 with HST);

In addition, the purchase of operational and training CEW cartridges for 2021, for a total of \$354,871.00 (\$401,004.23 with HST).

DEFERRED

7. WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: SECOND QUARTER 2021

Chief's report

A question was raised regarding an unexplained increase in Workplace Injury, Illness & Incident Report Forms received between 2018 and 2021. This increase was logged as an inquiry to be addressed at a future meeting of the Board.

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

8. PERFORMANCE REPORT: SECOND QUARTER 2021

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

9. REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION - 17 OCTOBER 2020

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

10. REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION - 2 JANUARY 2021

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

11. REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION - 21 JANUARY 2021

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

12. REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION - 22 JANUARY 2021

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

13. OUTSTANDING BOARD INQUIRIES & MOTIONS: SEPTEMBER 2021

Executive Director's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

14. LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECEIVED

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM INSURANCE BUREAU OF CANADA
2. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM RUN OTTAWA
3. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM CHERYL PARROTT, WAYNE RODNEY, STEPHANIE STRUDWICK, GRACE MCCLELLAND-CROUT, LUCIE MARLEAU
4. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 23 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM QUEENSWAY CARLETON HOSPITAL AND THE OTTAWA HOSPITAL
5. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM ERIN LEIGH - OCTEVAW
6. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM NORA OTTENHOF
7. WRITTEN SUBMISSION DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 2021, FROM INTERVAL HOUSE OTTAWA, NELSON HOUSE OF OTTAWA CARLETON, HARMONY HOUSE

Please note that the in camera meeting was held prior to the public meeting and the following items were discussed:

IN CAMERA ITEMS

1. Update on Communications Contract
2. Legal Matter
3. Legal Matter
4. Labour Relations Matter
5. Legal Matter
6. Legal Matter
7. Legal Matter
8. Labour Relations Matter
9. Labour Relations Matter

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting - Monday, October 25, 2021 - 4:00 PM