



## Ottawa Police Services Board

### Minutes 48

Monday, December 20 2021, 4:00 PM

*Via Zoom*

**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 20 December 2021 meeting.**

CONFIRMED

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES #46 OF 22 AND 23 NOVEMBER 2021

---

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm Minutes #46 of the 22 and 23 November 2021 meeting.**

CONFIRMED

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

## PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

The Board heard from the following public delegate:

1. ROBIN BROWNE, 613-819 BLACK HUB

The following points were raised during the delegation:

- Concerns regarding the 2022 budget, including the consultation process.
- Disagreement with the community led-guiding counsel and the OPS being a part of it.

The Board noted that they did work towards a zero-base budget for 2022, but as an employer there were obligations such as compensation that had to be provided for. There was also consideration in terms of capacity for the offloading of mental health response calls for service. The Board was in agreement that there are some calls that could be better addressed by other services, and that they would continue to work with the City.

## INQUIRIES

### **Member Nirman, Traffic Enforcement Resources/Services within the OPS –**

The Board has repeatedly heard concerns regarding traffic enforcement within Ottawa, including during 2022 budget deliberations, discussions with the Chief, and a Finance and Audit Committee Working Group briefing.

- 1) What strengths are allocated to traffic services, and do they meet the needs of a city with over 1 million residents?

- 2) What additional key responsibilities does the division hold beyond traffic speed enforcement and VIP escorts?
- 3) In a report to the Board, the Service indicated having received just over \$5 million in revenue between July 2020 and July 2021 from speed cameras. Does the revenue go to the OPS? If so, how is it used?
- 4) Please describe the limitations of speed enforcement cameras to address stunt driving, distracted driving, and impaired driving. Does increasing our reliance on photo radar raise concerns?
- 5) Are there any planned changes either in mandate or capability to the Traffic Section given the revised 2022 OPS Budget?

### **Member Nirman – Rise in Ottawa Cybercrime Attacks**

On December 20, 2021, the Ottawa Citizen reported a rise in Ottawa area cybercrimes. The Service has advised the Board on multiple occasions that the OPS lack the required resources to staff a Cybercrime Unit.

- 1) Can the Service provide statistics relating to reports received from cybercrime victims in 2020 and 2021, particularly during the pandemic? How many of the crimes have been investigated and/or resolved?
- 2) Given the increasing prevalence of cybercrimes in Ottawa, will the Service be able to strengthen their cybercrime capacity within the 2022 budget? If so, how?

### **Member Smallwood – Breakdown of Calls for Service**

Could the Service please provide a breakdown of total annual calls for service by priority level for the past 10 years? In addition, the 2020 Annual Report notes that there were 221,000 calls for service however only 88,000 reports were taken. Can you please explain the factors contributing to whether a police report need be taken? Would it be accurate to suggest that the majority of calls for service do not require or result in a police report?

### **Chair Deans – Protections for members of the public who share information about criminal incidents with the OPS**

When criminal incidents occur in the City of Ottawa, the OPS will sometimes call on members of the public to share information or identify a person that will help police solve those crimes. In certain cases, sensitive information may be shared that could place a witness in a vulnerable position. Could the Service please explain the process undertaken, and protections provided to members of the public who share information with the OPS related to criminal incidents?

**Member Meehan – Impacts of cannabis legalization on illegal activity**

Cannabis was legalized in Ottawa in 2018. Can the Service provide an estimated number of incidents or calls received associated with legalized cannabis? Have there been any? The province has offered additional money for police enforcement around cannabis shops. I do not recall having seen the funds. Have the OPS received this? Has there been a reduction in illegal drug dealing?

**Chair Deans – Definition and breakdown of shooting incidents in Ottawa in 2021**

Could the Service please provide a breakdown of the 80 shooting incidents noted in Chief Sloly's December verbal report? Please also define what qualifies as a shooting. 80 shootings in a single year is the highest number ever recorded in a year. How many of those shootings were targeted? How many were illegal discharges of firearms without injury? Please provide additional context, including a comparative analysis of previous years.

**Member Meehan – Breakdown of impaired driving incidents in Ottawa in 2021**

Please provide a breakdown of the 740 impaired driving charges laid by the OPS in 2021. How many were alcohol related? How many were related to other substances? Please provide an analysis of how these numbers compare to previous years and indicate whether the pandemic has caused an increase.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

Chair's report

---

Chair Deans delivered a verbal report, in which she spoke primarily to the 2022 budget process, as well as the work underway for the year ahead.

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](#).

A question was raised regarding the 80 shooting incidents in 2021. The Service noted that additional information would be provided on the incidents in their annual report. It was noted that any shooting incident or suspected shooting incident is included in that total, as any unauthorized discharge of a weapon or perceived discharge of a weapon is illegal. The Service conducts a comparative analysis, determining how many were targeted incidents as opposed to a discharge of a weapon, in the aim of contextualizing the number; 50 per cent of the shootings did not result in anyone being harmed. The question was logged as an inquiry for a more detailed response to be provided at a later date.

A further question was raised regarding the 740 impaired driving charges. The Board requested a breakdown of whether these charges involve drugs and/or alcohol, and whether the Service has seen an increase in these offenses since the pandemic's onset. The Service noted that they would provide this information in January 2022. This question was also logged as an inquiry for a more detailed response to be provided at a later date.

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

RECEIVED

3. ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF POLICE SERVICES BOARDS: 2022  
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Executive Director's report

---

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve payment of \$6,595.27 (including HST) to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards for its 2022 membership fee.**

CARRIED

4. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAM AND FACILITIES CAPITAL ORDER AMALGAMATION

Chief's report

---

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

1. BAILEY GAUTHIER (THEY / THEM)
2. INEZ HILLEL
3. MARA WHEELEHAN

The following points were raised during the delegations:

- Calls for the Board to not delegate authority to the Service.
- A lack of clarity on the transferring of \$9 million dollars to the South Facility and whether it is further committing the Board to the facility.
- Questions regarding the transfer of funds to a new facility when efforts are being made to reduce demands on police.
- The need for poverty and crime reduction through legalization.

Following the delegations, the Board raised a number of questions.

Regarding the fleet portion of the recommendation, the Service indicated that inflationary pricing was factored into their analysis. It was noted that the fleet program was approved as a part of the 2022 budget, and that the recommendation seeks authority for the Service and the Chief to move forward with the vehicle purchases. Hybrid vehicles are being considered. Supply chain issues were referenced, and it was noted that manufacturers prefer selling to consumers as it is more lucrative, which was a contributing factor in the Service seeking delegated authority. If granted the delegated authority, the Service would have the flexibility to make fleet purchases when financially prudent to do so throughout the year. The Service reminded the Board that they generally place two to three vehicle orders a year, as included in the budget, which allows them to operate effectively.

The Service raised the need to align vehicle availability, financial purchasing ability, and manufacturer availability from an administrative perspective. It was suggested that they could advise the Board of when purchases are being made throughout the year.

The Service indicated that the Chief of Police is generally provided with delegated authority up to \$500,000 on competitive contracts. The fleet budget, however, approved for 2022 is \$4.5 million. It was reiterated that in providing the Chief delegated authority up to the total budgeted amount, the Service would have the ability to input purchase orders when suitable based on supply chain issues.

The Service confirmed that a fleet review was conducted in 2021, which removed 20 vehicles from the fleet with a projected reduction of an additional 15 vehicles for 2022. The Service indicated that lessening the fleet by 35 vehicles will result in a \$450,000 savings. Vehicles last approximately three to five years dependent on mileage and wear and are moved throughout units to maximize their lifespan. Further, extended warranties are leveraged when possible. The Service employs a fleet manager, responsible for reviewing vehicles and determining which need be pulled based on their condition prior to any purchases being made. The Board was assured that the fleet manager has decades of experience and is a mechanic.

Confusion was expressed regarding the portion of the recommendation that pertained to the South Facility. The Board reminded the Service that in previous discussions, the Chief had noted that the South Facility was representative of policing needs from 15 years ago, rather than being designed with the future in mind.

A question was raised regarding whether the recommendation requests a shuffling of funds, or if it would create barriers in the future should the Board want to make changes to the South Facility. It was clarified that this is a debt financing strategy, rather than advancing the South Facility project.

The Service noted that they were not requesting any additional funding, and that this would in fact be a shuffling of funds. The recommendation, if carried, would allow the OPS to have additional debt-free funding and replenish their reserve funds. CAO Blair Dunker reminded the Board of financial pressures being faced, potentially leading the OPS into a deficit for 2021. It was noted that the Service was actively working with the City to devise the best fiscal solution, however there were not believed to be any other funding sources to address the year-end deficit.

The Service indicated that they would provide the Board with a facility strategic plan in early 2022 to review the South Facility.

The Board directed the Service to provide a report back to the Board any time the

---

Chief uses his delegated authority, either quarterly or bi-annually.

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board:**

- 1. Approve the delegation of authority to the Chief of Police to execute and administer the 2022 Fleet Replacement Program, up to a maximum of \$4.5 million, and**

CARRIED

- 2. Transfer the \$5.0 million in capital order 909876 South – Comms/911 and the \$4.0 million in capital order 909877 South – IM/IT to capital order 903447 Facility Acquisition - South Phase 1.**

CARRIED

- 5. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLE: OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE**

Chief's report

---

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the appointment of the Ottawa Police Service employee Morgan WYCHE as Special Constable pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Form.**

CARRIED



6. TELUS COMMUNICATIONS INC. WIRELESS SERVICES CONTRACT

Chief's report

---

A question was raised regarding the Service's contract with Telus. The Service noted that there are a variety of reasons for which Telus was sole-sourced, however they intend to open the contract for competition in 2024 as it is a typical business requirement. The need for a competitive process to ensure that the OPS are receiving the best possible pricing was raised.

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board delegate authority to the Chief for the purchase of wireless services renewal from TELUS Communications Inc. for a three-year term from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2024 at an approximate total value of \$3,362,000.00 excluding non-refundable taxes.**

CARRIED

7. BOARD DISCRETIONARY FUND: 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Director's report

---

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

RECEIVED

8. OUTSTANDING BOARD INQUIRIES & MOTIONS: DECEMBER 2021

Executive Director's report

---

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

RECEIVED

9. 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.

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

#### IN CAMERA ITEMS

1. Delay Application
2. Labour Relations Matter

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

#### NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting - Monday, January 24 2022 - 4:00 PM