

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Kingston Police Services Board
Held on Monday, November 15, 2021, at 2:00 pm
Via Webinar Hosted at Kingston Police Headquarters**

IN ATTENDANCE VIA ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

Jarrold Stearns, Chair	Chief Antje McNeely
Councillor Jeff M ^c Laren, Vice-Chair	Deputy Chief Scott Fraser
Councillor Bridget Doherty	Members of staff and media
Jamshed Hassan	
Dr. Christian Leuprecht	
Lorie Sargeant, Secretary	

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

2. The members confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest to report.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Moved by Councillor M^cLaren
Seconded by Councillor Doherty

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

2022 BUDGET

4. The Chair welcomed Chief McNeely and asked the Board if there were questions with respect to the proposed budget.
5. Councillor Doherty asked Chief McNeely to identify the large expenditures in the budget. Chief McNeely explained that wages and benefits account for 85.3% of the total budgeted operating costs which is 2.56% of the 3.64% increase; and on the capital side \$585,000 account for the replacement of fleet vehicles and \$1.5 million is allotted to maintain Information Technology and Infrastructure.
6. Mr. Stearns asked Chief McNeely where reductions could be made if the City did not approve the budget as presented. Chief McNeely explained that the only area would be in the staffing area. For example the two officers seconded to the Repeat Offender and Parole Enforcement Unit (ROPE) could be absorbed back into the police services effecting savings of approximately \$130,000. She explained that she would be very reluctant to do so as the program is a public safety matter.
7. Dr. Leuprecht was interested in how the delivering of adequate and effective policing be effected if Council sought a lower increase and, on the other hand, how was the increase aligning with the priorities of the Strategic Plan. Chief McNeely explained that the budget would have been as forecasted at 2.68% and that the additional 1% increase was

for expenses out of the control of the Police Services being: prisoner transportation decreased; increased city charges, building and fleet; increase in gasoline prices; impact of WSIB, contractual change in health care spending account; contract hiring for short term absences and contractual legal fees for SUI fees (5 investigations). She further explained that the police services are dealing with the challenging social trends and in this regard redeploying members in strategic areas and re-aligning resources to where the trends are increasing; shifting members to drug and street crime units, major crime and alterative response units. Chief McNeely relayed that the alternate response model for priority 3 and 4 calls for service for persons in crises diverting the number of mental health calls for service away from the front line response, increased the capacity of uniformed patrol for proactive work. She indicated that members are working closing with community partners such as: the Integrated Core Hub (ICH); partnership with Youth Diversion; and the Equity, Diversion, Inclusion and Indigenization (EDII) strategy partnering with Kingston Community Health Centre (KCHC). She advised that further enhancements include in-house training through Train The Trainer Program.

8. Councillor Doherty noted that with the 1% increase which was not under the Police Services control, the budget increase would be 2.6%. She asked Chief McNeely if the extra costs incurred by the Queen’s during the months of September and October were included. Chief McNeely explained that conversations were ongoing with the City and the University with respect to shared cost recovery and that she had not received all of the bills with respect to the Police Services costs. Chief McNeely further noted that a Report with respect to Queen’s Homecoming would be presented at the next regular board meeting.
9. Mr. Hassan was interested in how Kingston compared to other police services with respect to the budget increase. Chief McNeely commented that Kingston was at the mid to lower-end compared to other Police Services. She shared the following information with respect to other Police agency budget increases approved by their respective boards for 2022 to date:

Cobourg	2.80%
Barrie	2.88%
Timmins	3.16%
Peterborough	3.49%
Kingston	3.64%
York	4.50%
Sarnia	4.70%
Sudbury	4.70%
Peel	4.80%
Niagara	4.90%

10. Board members were interested in how the public could be informed. Chief McNeely directed members to the [Crime Severity Index](#) and the reports provided to the Board with respect to calls for services, crime statistics, use of force, etc. The Chair pointed out that the Board’s website is in progress.

11. Dr. Leuprecht asked to be updated on the Mounted Unit (Murney). Chief McNeely relayed that Murney had been retired from the 2020 Kingston Police budget and reported that the community found value in keeping the mounted unit and are doing so through fundraising. The board had determined in 2021 that \$75,000 would keep the mounted unit for this year and next year. Chief McNeely is meeting next week to see if the goal of \$75,000 has been reached.
12. Councillor Doherty indicated the need for our community partners to respond and asked Chief McNeely if a reduction in costs to the police services is apparent when the community partners respond. Chief McNeely relayed that as the police services are building the infrastructure with community partners they are monitoring the efficiencies. With 23% of noise complaints being diverted, that allows for a redirection of services into other areas of speciality such as drugs and street crimes, major crimes and alternative response units. She further explained that the reduction of calls allowing first responders to respond to priority 1 and 2 calls, members could be redirected to focus on those crimes taking long times and dedicated resources to investigate such as the recent double homicide. She indicated the importance of our IT and data sources to assist in the tracking and monitoring of these measures.
13. The Chair, seeing no more questions, thanked the Chief and called for a vote on the budget.
14. Moved by Councillor Doherty
Seconded by Dr. Leuprecht

That the Board vote on the budget; and

That the Board approve the proposed 2022 operating and capital budgets for presentation to City Council.

Carried
Recorded Vote: (4:0)
(21-69)

Councillor M^cLaren left the meeting at 2:30 pm and was not present for the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

15. Moved by Councillor Doherty
Seconded by Mr. Hassan

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Chair

Secretary