



THE HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

October 27, 2023

TO: Council of the City of Hamilton
C/O Tamara Bates, Legislative Coordinator

FROM: Kirsten Stevenson, Administrative Director
C/O The Hamilton Police Services Board

SENT VIA EMAIL: tamara.bates@hamilton.ca

SUBJECT: Response from the Hamilton Police Services Board with regards to Correspondence from the City of Hamilton respecting Hamilton Police Services and Hamilton Public Library Surpluses and Deficits

Please be advised at its meeting of October 26, 2023, the Hamilton Police Services Board approved the following comments, with respect to the above-noted matter, be forwarded to the Hamilton City Council:

- The *Police Services Act* (PSA) sets out how budget matters related to policing in Ontario are managed;
- Section 4 of the PSA provides that municipalities have the obligation to ensure adequate and effective policing and to approve the allocation of funds necessary for the provisions of policing as required by the PSA;
- Section 39(4) of the PSA states that Council does not have the authority to approve or disapprove of specific items when the Board submits its draft budget for Council's approval;
- The Hamilton Police Services Board has had a policy in place since 2015 with respect to how police reserves related to operating budget surpluses and deficits are managed. This policy was prepared in collaboration with the City's finance department;
- The Board believes that Council's motion to amend the year-end closing process is in contravention of the PSA, as a municipality does not have the general powers of financial management of a Police Services Board.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kirsten', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kirsten Stevenson (she/her)
Administrative Director,
Hamilton Police Services Board

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