

**HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE BOARD
PUBLIC MINUTES**

Tuesday, December 17, 2024
Hybrid Meeting
1:02 P.M.

Present: Chair Elms
Vice Chair Robertson
Member Horwath
Member Menezes
Member Pauls

Absent with regrets: Member Kroetsch

Also Present: Chief Frank Bergen
Deputy Chief Ryan Diodati
Deputy Chief Paul Hamilton
Legal Counsel Marco Visentini
Inspectorate of Policing Advisor – David Tilley
Administrative Director Kirsten Stevenson
Administrative Assistant Lucia Romano

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

2. Acknowledgements

Member Pauls provided the land acknowledgement.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The Administrative Director noted the following changes to the agenda:

- Added consent item 8.4 – Auction Account Requests for Funding and Support (PSB 24-038)
- Revised recommendation item 9.1 – 2023 Year End Board Policy Report (PSB 24-037)
- Added correspondence dated December 9 through December 15 to recommendation item 9.3.1 – Public Opinion Submissions Respecting the Proposed 2025 Police Budget Increase of 5.7%
- Added recommendation item 9.4 – Delegation Request from Jelena Vermilion of the Sex Worker’s Action Program (SWAP) Hamilton

- Added closed consent items 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5 related to legal and personal matters about an identifiable individual in accordance with Section 44(1) and (2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*.
- Added closed recommendation item 4.2 related to related to legal and personal matters about an identifiable individual in accordance with Section 44(1) and (2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*.

Added or revised items are noted with an ‘*’.

Resolution Number **241217 - 1**

Moved By: Member Pauls

Seconded By: Member Menezes

That the agenda be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

5. Delegations, Presentations and Verbal Updates

5.1 Members of the Month

Chief Bergen called upon Inspector Carolyne Rashford to present the awards.

St. John's Life Saving Award – Sergeant Kim Walker and Constable James Casselman.

Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) 2SLGBTQIA+ Visibility Award – Rebecca Moran (not present)

Chief Bergen called upon Staff Sergeant Ryan Hashimoto to present the following award:

Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP)/Axon Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Leadership Award – Inspector Carolyne Rashford

5.2 Board Chair Verbal Update

The Chair provided his update.

Resolution Number **241217 - 2**

Moved By: Member Pauls

Seconded By: Member Menezes

That the Chair's verbal update be received.

CARRIED

5.3 Chief of Police Verbal Update

The Chief provided his update to the Board.

Resolution Number **241217 - 3**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Horwath

That the Chief's verbal update be received.

CARRIED

5.4 Administrative Director Verbal Update

The Administrative Director provided her update.

Resolution Number **241217 - 4**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That the Administrative Director's verbal update be received.

CARRIED

6. Approval of the Minutes

6.1 Public Minutes of November 28, 2024

Resolution Number **241217 - 5**

Moved By: Member Horwath

Seconded By: Member Menezes

That the public minutes of November 28, 2024, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

7. Correspondence

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 6**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That correspondence listed as items 7.1 through 7.6 be received.

CARRIED

- 7.1 Correspondence from the Office of the Solicitor General - Call for Pre-Budget Submissions (November 28, 2024)**
- 7.2 All Chiefs Memo - Attorney General of Ontario Position on Third-Party Production Motions for Police Records 24-0072 (November 27, 2024)**
- 7.3 All Chiefs Memo - Commissions Under the Great Seal (King's Commissions) Under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 24-0073 (December 3, 2024)**
- 7.4 All Chiefs Memo - Authorization for Use of the TASER 10 Conducted Energy Weapon 24-0074 (December 4, 2024)**
- 7.5 All Chiefs Memo - Amendments to the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, through the Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act, 2024 24-0076 (December 9, 2024)**
- 7.6 Thank You from ProAction Cops & Kids (December 6, 2024)**

8. Consent Agenda

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 7**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That consent items listed as 8.1 through 8.4, be received.

CARRIED

- 8.1 Media Release: Hamilton Police Service Board Seeking Public Opinions on Proposed 2025 Police Budget (November 28, 2024)**

8.2 Media Release: Hamilton Police Service Board Deadline Extended for the Submission of Public Opinions on the Budget Committee's Proposed 2025 Police Budget Increase of 5.7% (December 6, 2024)

8.3 Outstanding Business List as of December 17, 2024

***8.4 Auction Account Requests for Funding and Support (PSB 24-038)**

Based on past practice and in accordance with the Board's Auction Account Policy:

a) That tickets at a cost of \$65 each be purchased to attend the Hamilton Police Pipe Band's 2025 Robert Burns Dinner, taking place on February 1, 2025, at the Scottish Rite in Hamilton in support of musical programs for children; and

b) That a donation of \$1000 be made to the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton in support of the 'Give the Gift of Joy' campaign which provides support for youth through education, stable housing, and food security; and

c) That funding for approved events be taken from the Auction Account.

9. Recommendations

9.1 2024 Year End Board Policy Report (PSB 24-037)

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 8**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Horwath

That Board policies not created or revised within the past year be updated to include a reviewed date of December 17, 2024, as per Policy P-004 (Policy Review Standards).

CARRIED

9.2 Civilian Backfill - Special Constable (24-106)

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 9**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Horwath

That the approved headcount for the Civilian Special Constables be increased by 1 full-time employee (FTE).

CARRIED

9.3 2025 Operating and Capital Budget (24-105)

Budget Committee Chair Don Robertson introduced the proposed 2025 Operating and Capital Budget to the Board.

The Chief of Police provided the budget presentation and answered questions of the Board.

Member Menezes provided a statement respecting the 2025 budget process.

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 10**

Moved By: Vice Chair Robertson

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That the Hamilton Police Service Board (Board):

1. Approve the proposed 2025 Hamilton Police Service (HPS) net operating and capital budget of \$227,075,420, representing a combined increase of \$12,252,775 or 5.70% over the approved 2024 HPS budget and detailed as follows:
 - a. Police Services Board \$1,034,523
 - b. Operating \$219,467,454
 - c. Capital \$6,573,443
2. Approve the following transfers from reserves totaling \$2,343,060 in 2025:
 - a. HPS Tax Stabilization Reserve (#104055) \$1,500,000
 - b. Vehicle Replacement Reserve (#110020) \$125,000
 - c. Capital Expenditures Reserve (#110065) \$718,060
3. Submit the 2025 Operating and Capital Budget to the City of Hamilton (the City) for inclusion in the City's annual budget and consideration by City Council.

CARRIED

Member Menezes was noted as being opposed.

***9.3.1 Public Opinion Submissions Respecting the Proposed 2025 Police Budget Increase of 5.7%**

***9.4 Delegation Request from Jelena Vermilion of the Sex Workers' Action Program (SWAP) Hamilton**

After discussion, the Board approved the following:

Resolution Number **241217 - 11**

Moved By: Member Menezes

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That the delegation request be approved for a future meeting.

CARRIED

10. Motions

There were no motions.

11. Closed Meeting

Resolution Number **241217 - 12**

Moved By: Member Horwath

Seconded By: Member Pauls

That the Board move into closed session in accordance with Section 44(1) and (2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*, to discuss:

- a) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including members of the police service or any other employees of the board;
- b) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the board, which if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization.

CARRIED

The Board recessed at 2:23 PM before moving into closed session at 2:41 PM.

12. Closed Meeting Report Back

Resolution Number **241217 - 13**

Moved By: Member Horwath

Seconded By: Member Pauls

During its Closed Meeting the Board approved its closed minutes of November 28, 2024, and dealt with personnel and legal matters in accordance with Section 44(1) and (2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*.

CARRIED

13. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Friday, January 24, 2024, at 1:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 PM.

Taken as read and approved.

Chair Geordie Elms

Administrative Director
Kirsten Stevenson