

Present: Chair Myette
 Chief Zettel
 Member Woodley
 Member Matheson

Member Thede
Member O'Connor
Tracey Edwards, Secretary

Absent: Inspector Mighton

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion 1 – John Woodley/Pat O'Connor

That the Agenda for the Public Meeting of the Saugeen Shores Police Services Board dated September 29, 2021, be approved.

Disposition – Carried

3. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

No declarations of pecuniary interest were declared, however the Chairman advised that the members could declare at any time in the meeting.

4. **Delegations**

5. **Adoption of Minutes**

6. **Communications**

7. **Reports**

Chief's Report

Personnel

The Chief reported that the candidate for the Sergeant position has been chosen. 3 internal applicants were interviewed, and he recommends Adam Sachs for the promotion. Adam has been with SSPS since 2003.

Motion 2 – John Woodley/Greg Thede

That the Saugeen Shores Police Services Board endorses the Chief's recommendation to promote Adam Sachs to the position of Police Sergeant effective January 3rd 2022.

Disposition – Carried

Operating Budget

The Chief presented his draft budget for 2022, which has been carefully presented to minimize any unnecessary financial impact to taxpayers, while ensuring additional staffing of police officers and support staff to help us get closer to then numbers needed to provided adequate and effective policing services for Saugeen Shores.

In 2021, we delayed increasing our authorized uniform strength from 23 to 24 officers as a cost saving measure during a global pandemic, and the need for fiscal restraint during difficult times as dictated by the departing CAO. These efforts were successful at presenting a very modest 2021 budget, however as the population of Saugeen Shores continues to grow at exponential rates, so must our policing services and deployable officers to keep pace with this rapid growth. It is important to understand the importance of incremental increases each year to avoid a staffing shortfall in the future, and to keep pace with the quickly growing population in Saugeen Shores. Having to hire numerous members in one budget cycle, will inevitably create a financial hardship. As such, I propose that the Saugeen Shores Police Service continues to increase their authorized strength incrementally into the future to keep up with the rate of growth. Incremental increases in frontline officers over the coming years through evidence-based analysis including evening out of population and calls for service will be the path forward to ensure we serve the community needs. If Saugeen Shores Police were to be aligned with the provincial average, 29 officers would be required. It is not feasible from a costing perspective to increase our authorized strength by 6 officers at the present time; however, it effectively highlights the need for increased staffing now and into the future. Robust recruitment will be required now, and well into the future.

The 2022 proposed budget will include increasing authorized strength from 23 to 24 officers, as well as the addition of a part-time support services member to assist with court brief preparation, freedom of information requests, and record checks. The new police officers will be hired as cadets to be sent to the Ontario Police College, and incrementally promoted through the ranks of 4th class Constable through to 1st class Constable over a 57-month process. This will help the Saugeen Shores Police Service to increase personnel without drastic impacts to the budget. Increases will be recognized slowly over a number of years.

Capital Budget – Taser 7

The Chief advised that the Saugeen Shores Police Service is seeking approval for a total capital expenditure of **\$ 41,804.78** to purchase Seven (7) Conducted Energy Weapons, as well as holsters, cartridges, and training cartridges and materials for all uniformed personnel. The Taser 7 devices are not personal issue. The devices are signed out by uniformed patrol members at the start of shift, and returned at the conclusion of their shift. Seven devices will ensure that all frontline uniform patrol members have access to a Taser for their shift. The holsters are personal issue. The holsters are incorporated into the officer's duty belt, and are unable to be changed out in an efficient or effective manner. When transitioning from the current Taser X26 to the new Taser 7, members will be required to deploy 3 training cartridges as part of the qualification process. The capital request includes enough training cartridges to properly transition each uniformed member. The new Taser 7 devices will provide the Saugeen Shores Police members with the most current and up-to-date technology to ensure officer and public safety.

Capital Budget – Mobile Workstations

The Chief reported that the Saugeen Shores Police Service incorporated Mobile Workstations (MWS) in the frontline patrol vehicle through a success civil remedies grant application in 2015. These workstations have provided our frontline patrol officers to remain on patrol and visible in the public while they complete their required reporting. The workstations provide our officer with real-time information through the Canadian Police Information Center (CPIC) and the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and our NICHE Records Management System (NICHE RMS) which improves efficiencies and officer safety. One of the patrol vehicles is equipped with an Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) which works in unison with the mobile workstation to display the results of vehicles checked through 4 stationary mounted cameras on the vehicle. In 2020, we added the functionality of computer aided dispatch, which now allows our Communications Centre to send calls and related information to the mobile workstation, ensuring that our officers are equipped with as much information as possible when responding to calls for service.

As technology continues to improve, and the demands on the workstations increase, it has become evident that the technology and hardware purchased in 2015 is unable to keep pace with today's demands. The purchase of new mobile workstations will allow us to add more functionality to our mobile workstations in the future, allowing for electronic ticketing and mobile collision reporting to name a few. This will greatly expedite processes, and lessen the potential for human error when completing collision reports or traffic.

At the present time, Saugeen Shores Police Service is investigating the possibility of E-ticketing. In consultation with other police services, E-ticketing saves time and money, and drastically reduces errors and the need to re-issue. E-ticketing will allow officer to complete provincial and criminal release forms. The technology also allows officers to complete Motor Vehicle Collision Reports, all release forms, suspension notices, impound forms, and allows for remote serving: if our service has a summons for someone and we come across them any officer with the app can serve them, swear to it and send it back electronically. This technology will save thousands of person hours and greatly reduce the margin of error associated with manual preparation and processing.

The capital budget request of **\$30,324.55** along with the \$21,667 in modernization funding from 2021 will allow us to purchase, install, and implement the new mobile workstation, hardware, and software required to allow us to transition our manual preparation of court documents, offence notices, and collision reports to an electronic format saving us time and greatly reducing the margin of error. With the ever-increasing demands on policing services, the Saugeen Shores Police Service must work toward more efficient processes to best utilize our patrol time and allow officers to quickly and efficiently complete tasks

2022 Fees and Charges

The Chief advised that the fees and charges for 2022 will increase slightly, with the exception of some fixed fees.

The Board recommended a few changes to the draft 2022 budget, and thanked Chief Zettel for all his work on drafting the budget.

Motion 3 – Pat O’Connor/John Woodley

That the Saugeen Shores Police Services Board approves the 2022 draft budget, and the 2022 draft fees and charges, and recommends that it be forwarded to Council of the Town of Saugeen Shores for consideration.

Disposition – Carried

8. **Accounts/Statistics**

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **Next Meeting**

October 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

11. **Closed to Public**


12. **Adjournment**

Motion 4 – Greg Thede/Pat O’Connor

That this meeting of the Saugeen Shores Police Board do now adjourn at 6:17 p.m.

Disposition – Carried


Chairman


Secretary