

June 17, 2019

Report To: Mayor & Council

From: John McTaggart, PSB Chairperson & Doug Brown, CAO

SUBJECT: Proposal for Two OPP Special Constables Court Security Enhancement.

At the April 5th, 2019 Police Services Board Meeting, the Board passed a resolution to instruct Inspector N Schmidt, Rainy River District detachment commander to seek a cost estimate for an enhancement to the existing OPP police service contract for 2 OPP Special Constables court enhancements.

At the June 26, 2019 meeting of the Police Services Board, a further discussion took place respecting costing and language necessary to bring forward the request to the OPP Municipal Policing Bureau.

The two special OPP constables would replace regular uniform OPP constables for court security services. Utilizing special constables for court security is a common practice undertaken by most communities in Ontario. Both Kenora & Dryden utilize special constables for court security services. The main reason why this costing was requested was to determine if the community was receiving court security services in the most cost-effective means available.

Please find attached a spreadsheet outlining the Town's 2019 estimated cost for court security using regular OPP uniform constables (September 24, 2018) vs costs using 2 special OPP constables (proposed). As you can see the net saving is estimated at **\$ 113,835** per year.


At this time, a Council decision is required to amend the current OPP police service contract to include 2 special constables to provide court security services. This is considered an enhancement to the existing contract and will reduce court security costs going forward.

Based on discussions with Inspector Schmidt an enhancement to the current contract is **not subject** to the phased-in capping adjustment and 2019 is the last year of the 5-year capping protection strategy. As a result, it is more advantageous to the Town from a purely cost containment standpoint to have the 2 special constables hired and in place for January 1st, 2020. It is estimated that it will take 3 months for the OPP to recruit 2 special OPP constables to provide court services in Fort Frances.

The following is recommended;

- 1) THAT the OPP be provided direction to commence the recruitment process around the 1st week in October 2019 for two (2) OPP Special Constables for court security in Fort Frances with an employment date commencing January 1, 2020;
- 2) THAT the current contract with the OPP be terminated effective September 30th, 2019 and that a new contract be negotiated to commence October 1st, 2019 with the inclusion of two (2) OPP Special Constables court security enhancement in the new contract.

Respectfully Submitted
Town of Fort Frances


Doug Brown, P. Eng.
CAO


John McTaggart, Chairperson
Police Services Board

COUNCIL approval of this report will ensure the following:

- 1) **THAT** the OPP be provided direction to commence the recruitment process around the 1st week in October 2019 for two (2) OPP Special Constables for court security in Fort Frances with an employment date commencing January 1, 2020; and
- 2) **THAT** the current contract with the OPP be terminated effective September 30th, 2019 and that a new contract be negotiated to commence October 1st, 2019 with the inclusion of two (2) OPP Special Constables court security enhancement in the new contract.