



MUNICIPALITY OF THAMES CENTRE

REPORT NO. LS-C-001-24

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Interim Clerk

MEETING DATE: January 29, 2024

SUBJECT: TRANSITION TO NEW MIDDLESEX O.P.P. DETACHMENT BOARD

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. LS-C-001-24 be received for information;
AND THAT Council choose to appoint one (1) Council representative to the new Middlesex Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Board;
AND THAT Council nominates the current Thames Centre Police Service Board Chair, Jim Maudsley, to support the Board transition as one of the two Community Representatives;
AND THAT this resolution, including the name of the selected Council appointee and nominated community representative, Jim Maudsley, be forwarded to the local municipalities that form the Middlesex OPP Detachment service area for information and consideration to support the community member nomination.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council regarding the new Middlesex Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Board, and to seek direction regarding this transition and appointment for one (1) representative from the Municipality of Thames Centre Council.

BACKGROUND:

At its regular meeting held on November 14, 2023, Report No. CLERK-015-23 was presented to Council regarding the *Community Safety and Policing Act* (CSPA) and the upcoming transition to a new OPP Detachment Board. Since that meeting, it has been announced that this Act will come into force on April 1, 2024, which will automatically dissolve the Thames Centre Police services Board.

At the January 16, 2024 meeting of Middlesex County Council, Jim Maudsley and Lisa Darling, representatives of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), provided a presentation to the Committee of the Whole regarding these legislative changes and the tasks that need to be completed in advance of the in-force day of April 1st.



In order to assist with the transition to the new OPP Detachment Board, and facilitate the mandatory training required, staff are recommending that Thames Centre move forward with its appointment to the new board and advising the other local municipal partners.

A proposal for the new OPP Detachment Board framework to the Ministry of the Solicitor General was received and approved. The new board official composition information is also attached to this report.

The next meeting of the Thames Centre Police Services Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

COMMENTS:

In consultation with Provincial representatives, OAPSB and local municipal CAOs, the first step to an effective transition in compliance with the April 1st, 2024 deadline is the appointment of members to the new board. Once members are appointed, required training can be completed and the new Board can begin making decisions and recommendations to the local municipalities on next steps related to budget/billing, administration, bylaws, etc.

There is potential for a Working Group to be formed to support the transition to the new Board.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Pillar: *Smart Planning*

Goal: *Make smart planning decisions to grow the community, while maintaining a "hometown feel"*

CONSULTATION:

J. Nethercott, Interim Deputy Clerk

REFERENCES:

- CLERK-015-23 – Renewal of Agreement for the Provision of Police Services (November 14, 2023 Meeting of Council)

ATTACHMENTS:

- OAPSB Presentation to Middlesex County Council –
 - “OPP Detachment Boards – Municipalities’ Responsibilities in Getting Ready for the CSPA”

- Ministry of the Solicitor General –
 - Approval of Middlesex OPP Detachment Board & Board Composition

Prepared by: S. Henshaw, Interim Clerk

Reviewed by: D. Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer