

**VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2020 – 12:59pm to 2:28pm

Present:

Committee members: Barj Dhahan (Chair), Dr. Peter Wong (1:08pm), Wendy John
VPD: Sr. Dir. Nancy Eng, Kimberly Jang, Melissa Lee, Yemi Olatunji (until 2:16pm)
City of Vancouver: Tony Hui, Jenny Lau (until 1:30pm)
Board Office: Stephanie Johanssen, Executive Director, Ali Huculak Executive Assistant
Absent: DCC Rai
Minutes By: Ali Huculak

1. Agenda

The Committee adopted the agenda for February 27, 2020.

2. Minutes

The Committee approved the Minutes of and November 4, 2019.

3. COV Audit Annual Engagement Letter

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Committee that the auditing process has commenced.

4. CoV 2019 YE Financial Review Report

Tony Hui, Chief of Internal Audit from the City of Vancouver (CoV) spoke to the report stating the statement of revenues and expenses is fairly presented and in compliance with the Vancouver Police Department's (VPD) policies and practices.

The CoV performed a number of specified procedures in the review, including reconciliation of the statements to the City's general ledger, a variance analysis, looking for any anomalies or unexpected costs, as well as a review of the budget (looking at what was allocated at the beginning of the year and any changes that occurred throughout).

The Cost Recoveries, Grants and Donations category has been consistently budgeted lower by 29%-46% when compared to actuals. The difference with the overall budget has a variance of less than 1% within the same period. Based on the CoV's recommendation, the budget for recoveries was increased by 2.2M (9.8%) in 2020.

The Chair requested more clarification with respect to fraud detection. Mr. Hui stated that the audit cannot provide absolute assurance over fraud, but it will detect and identify certain dollar amounts for review.

The report was received for information.

The Chair thanked Mr. Hui and Ms. Lao for their hard work on the audit.

Mr. Tony Hui & Mrs. Jenny Lao exited the meeting at 1:30pm

5. 2019 Year-End Variance Report

The Chair spoke to the report stating 2019 is the fifteenth consecutive year the VPD has finished the year within its allotted budget.

Sr. Dir. Eng stated there have been no changes from the 3rd quarter report, all trends continued to be the same with regards to revenue recoveries and expenditures. The VPD was over budget in overtime spend and salaries which was offset by the recoveries.

Sr. Dir. Eng briefed the Committee on the Real Time Intelligence Center, which is a central intelligence agency for gathering both federal and provincial crime intel. The VPD has officers seconded to this unit and the approximate annual cost to the VPD is \$500,000 (46% of the RTIC operating budget).

It was decided to change the terminology from *Liquor Callout* to *Gastown & Granville Entertainment District Callout*.

Motion to recommend report to the Board.
MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

6. 2019 Year-End Overtime Analysis

Melissa Lee spoke to the Overtime report for 2019 stating the big component to going over budget was in Operations, and a large part of that was due to ongoing police work at Oppenheimer. The other sections that were over budget were consistent with previous years.

Typically the budget for this section would increase in years where there is a VPU wage settlement, since it has not been ratified the budget will not increase for 2020.

Sr. Dir. Eng stated that in March/April of 2019, the CoV gave the VPD an additional \$90,000 to help with public safety around Oppenheimer Park.

The Finance Committee requested to have a new line item added in the Appendix specifically for a breakdown in District 2, which would include Oppenheimer and also a breakdown in costs for the protests.

The report was received for information.

7. 2020 Approved Operating and Capital Budget

This report outlined the final budget numbers for 2020, as approved by Council. Sr. Dir. Eng stated the asked budget was \$315.27M and the VPD received \$314.36M with a reduction of \$911,000 which will be handled through a delay in some of the VPD's hiring processes.

Moving forward the Committee would like to know what the Board and VPD can collectively do around the budget ask.

Motion to put the report forward to the Board for the next meeting.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

8. 2020 Vacancy Report

Sr. Dir. Eng spoke to the report noting that there are 51 sworn vacancies and 43 civilian vacancies. The report outlined the reason for the vacancies.

There was discussion surrounding authorized strength and unfunded vacancies.

The report was received for information.

9. Financial and Purchase Authorities

Sr. Dir Nancy Eng outlined the plan for the 2021 budget strategy. The focus of the operation review will be getting funding for another 20 sworn members and 10 civilian positions.

There was discussion about E-Comm and the capital budget reduction.

Sr. Dir Nancy Eng clarified for the Committee the past and current funding in which the VPD allocates to the Community Policing Center's (CPC's) which has been increased to \$135,000 annually.

The Chair stated that the Board needs to have a close look at the CPC's asks and their contributions towards making the city safer and provide qualitative statements around the role of the CPC's and how they are partners with the VPD. The Chair asked that prior to the next meeting, Committee members receive a review of the numbers over the past 5 years for the CPC's.

Sr. Dir. Eng stated that before the 2021 budget meeting with Council, Board members can begin to lobby in May for items wanted by the Department so Council can include it in their outlook. September is another key date in the budget building process, and it is important to get face time with Council to present the VPD's budget. Ideally someone from the VPU could voice their support for the VPD's budget asks.

The Chair asked the Executive Director of the Police Board to have a meeting with Council in early September and a plan has been made to have Board member representation and community organization support speak at the meeting.

The report was received for information.

10. Other business

Dr. Wong stated his concern for the budget in regards to risk management and public safety.

Sr. Dir. Eng spoke to his concerns stating that public safety will happen regardless, and the finance and budget team does their best to support the asks of the Chief.

VPD staff exited the meeting at 2:16pm and the Committee moved to the *in camera* portion

11. Board Office Year-End Variance Report

Executive Director Stephanie Johanssen noted that the Board office was over budget due to the external Street Checks Review, which was anticipated. [REDACTED]

12. Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee received the Terms of reference for information.

13. Other Business

Per diems for board members will be discussed at the next board meeting to come up with a recommendation to increase the amount for certain obligations and to determine if the Vice-Chair should get a flat rate for their continued ongoing oversight.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28pm