

**VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2021- 1:03pm to 3:06pm AND November 12th, 2:00pm to 3:40pm

Present:

Committee members: Frank Chong (Chair), Faye Wightman, Rachel Roy **and** Board members Patricia Barnes and Merrilee Robson for the November 4th CoV presentation to the Board

VPD: CC Palmer, DCC Chow, Sr. Dir. Nancy Eng, Melissa Lee, Drazen Manojlovic

City Staff: Patrice Impey, Colin Knight

Board Office: Stephanie Johanssen, Executive Director

Minutes By: Ali Huculak

1. Adoption of Agenda for Nov 4, 2021

The Committee adopted the agenda for Nov 4, 2021.

2. Approval of Minutes Sept 14, 2021

The Committee approved the Minutes of Sept 14, 2021.

3. Presentation by City Finance: 2022 Draft Budget

City Finance team Patrice Impey and Colin Knight presented to the Board and VPD with respect to the 2022 draft budget, and budget timeline.

Mr. Knight spoke to the financial impacts on the City from the pandemic, and stated a property tax increase for next year will be needed. Ms. Impey and Mr. Knight stated City staff are recommending the 5% increase to property tax option.

Ms. Impey and Mr. Knight left the meeting at 2:20pm

4. VPD Budget Strategy Discussion – Meeting with Council

The Police Board provided input on the VPD PowerPoint that will be presented to City Council on November 8th.

Meeting with the Finance Committee, plus Board members Patricia Barnes and Merilee Robson was adjourned at 3:06pm on Nov 4th, 2021

The Finance Committee Meeting was continued at 2pm on Nov 12th, 2021 via WebEx with the Finance Committee only

Continued on November 12th at 2:00pm:

5. 2022 – Fees – other VPD Services Report

VPD Staff spoke to annual fees report, which covers all of the various services of the VPD. Sr. Director Nancy Eng explained the cost of volunteer fees, stating every police information record check undergoes fingerprinting, and the fee arrives from that fixed process.

Sr. Director Eng explained the VPD does not have a set fee for 9-1-1 Court orders. The VPD contact's E-Comm for 9-1-1 court orders, therefore the VPD only charges what E-Comm charges after receiving a direct bill from E-Comm.

There was discussion on removing the fingerprinting fees for volunteers, as is done by the Surrey RCMP. This will be discussed by the Board.

Motion to recommend to the Board for approval of the fees at the public meeting on November 25th, 2021.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

6. 2022 – Fees – Police and Traffic Authority Chair out Rate Report

Sr. Director Nancy Eng spoke to the charge out rates report, stating there was a marginal increase of 2.5% in the police officer charge out rates, and nothing for the traffic authority rates. The 2.5% reflects potential salary increases and benefits costs that may increase.

There was discussion with respect to the wage settlement and the Boards responsibility in the negotiation process. The Finance committee asked to take a more in depth look at the hourly rates with respect to pension changes and benefit changes next year.

The VPD will speak with the uniform committee regarding the cost of moving to a summer uniform after the heatwave experience in the summer of 2021.

Motion to recommend the charge out rates for 2022 to the full Board at the November 25th, 2021 Police Board meeting.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

7. 2022 VPD Preliminary Operating Budget

VPD staff briefed the Committee on the provisional budget options for 2022. Ms. Lee explained that the VPD follows the City's budgeting process for the Council approved budget, not the Board approved budget. Ms. Lee stated the VPD does not build this budget from the ground up, it is the previous years' budget and then the VPD adds or cuts. In addition to this, the VPD

Finance team works with City Staff on various other components. The VPD has a very robust sworn attrition model that illustrates the needs of the Department.

Ms. Lee explained that the City agreed the 2021 benefit rate that was not included in the budget this year, and they understand it needs to be funded in 2022 because of the perpetual costs. The VPD continues to work with City Staff, and understand the rate increases that comes from 3rd parties. Ms. Lee stated the only new item in 2022 for the VPD is the digital evidence management.

Sr. Director Eng explained the VPD develops the salary budget for sworn officers, and the City tells the VPD their authorized strength, and it is up to the Chief to deploy. The VPD does not do program based budgeting, and looks at the whole pool of authorized strength for sworn salary.

Sr. Director Eng stated the monthly attrition model is very complex and detailed, and it factors in retirements. The model forecasted out for three years to make sure the VPD does not have too many police officer vacancies, and they refine it every year as they learn more.

The VPD will provide a summary version of the authorized strength for sworn and civilian, broken down by Division, Section and Unit.

Sr. Director Eng stated when the VPD budget was created, it was not compared to other major police forces in Canada, because they look at specifically what VPD resource needs are.

There was discussion about the eight investment items listed in Scenario three, and whether or not they should have been included in the core budget. Sr. Director Eng explained how the VPD worked with City Staff and the City was provided an excel spreadsheet with these items listed, however there is not enough money to add those eight items to the budget or it would be over the 5% tax increase.

Sr. Director Eng stated officers on secondment have full cost recovery, including benefits and salary.

There was discussion regarding staffing costs, cuts, and incurring overtime due to the potential cuts, as well as civilian staffing and salaries and sworn salaries. Sr. Director Eng explained the attrition model in detail for the Finance committee.

8. 2022 VPD Preliminary Capital Budget

There were no questions or concerns with the 2022 preliminary Capital Budget.

9. VPD 2021 Q3 Variance Report

The VPD is managing their expenditures and have scaled back and deferred certain facility maintenance projects and some equipment purchases.

The VPD does not anticipate a slowdown in the number of protests and demonstrations moving into the colder/wetter months.

Sr. Director Eng spoke to a Board members question stating no internal documentation on the deficit exists, except showing in the GL that they spent less on certain line items.

There was discussion with respect to the VPD's prediction of overages. The Finance committee asked the VPD for more information as to where the VPD did cut back and restrictions on what they could control. The Finance team is looking for a short memo that explains where the VPD made discretionary budget savings, and the VPD agreed to pass the memo along before the next Board meeting. (Update: this was provided to the Board in November of 2021)

10. VPD 2021 Q3 Comprehensive Overtime Analysis

Report received.

11. VPD Vacancy Report

Report received.

VPD Staff left the meeting at 3:12pm.

12. Other Business

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Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm