



Meeting Date: February 7, 2024

Prepared By: Michael Di Lullo, CAO

Report No: CAO-2-2024

Subject: Middlesex County Police Services Board – Council Representative and Implementation Process

Recommendation:

THAT Report CAO-2-2024, re: Middlesex County Police Services Board – Council Representative and Implementation Process be received;

AND THAT Deputy Mayor John Brennan be appointed as the Middlesex Centre representative to the Middlesex County Police Services Board for the remainder of the Council Term;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to report back on the implementation and appointment process of community members to the Middlesex County Police Services Board.

Purpose:

To inform Council on the development of the Middlesex County Police Services Board and implementation of the Community Safety and Policing Act Legislation that will take effect on April 1st, 2024.

Background:

Beginning in 2020, staff have brought forward a number of reports outlining the proposed changes to the Community Safety and Policing Act – see Reports CAO 30-2023, 1-2023, 8-2021 and 12-2020.

These reports have provided an overview of the consultation that was organized by the Ministry of the Solicitor General regarding the [Community Safety and Policing Act](#) (CPSA) with a focus on OPP policing.

The intent of the review is to focus on the governance structure to address the following:

- OPP Detachment Boards;
- OPP Governance Advisory Council; and,

- Transitioning from the section 10 framework under the Police Services Act to the new OPP detachment framework under the Community Safety and Policing Act.

Correspondence dated December 18, 2023 from the Ministry of the Solicitor General has confirmed the in-force date of the CPSA for April 1, 2024 – see Appendix 1.

A presentation was provided to the County of Middlesex in January of this year and the local CAOs in Middlesex have come together to develop the framework for the newly created Middlesex County Police Services Board – see Appendix 2.

As such, this report will focus on the implementation of the Middlesex County Police Services Board as the in-force date approaches and provide an overview of the process required to work towards this timeline.

Analysis:

A meeting was arranged with the Provincial Advisor on January 26, 2024 to assist with the newly created Middlesex County Police Services Board and the local CAOs to understand the framework, challenges and overall setup for a newly created Board.

Currently, a police services board exists in the Municipality of Thames Centre. As of March 31, 2024, this Board will be disbanded and a newly formed cross-representation Board for the lower-tier municipalities that have OPP policing will take effect.

The following requirements are needed as we work towards the April 1st implementation date:

Council Representation

The Ministry has approved the following council representation for Middlesex (see Appendix 3 or refer to Report CAO-30-2023):

Adelaide Metcalfe, Newbury & Southwest Middlesex	1 member
Lucan Biddulph & North Middlesex	1 member
Middlesex Centre	1 member
Thames Centre	1 member
Chippewa of the Thames	1 member

Munsee-Delaware Nation	1 member
Oneida of the Thames	1 member

It is proposed that Deputy Mayor John Brennan be appointed as the council representative for Middlesex Centre.

Citizen Representation

The lower tier municipalities will issue an advertisement for two citizen representatives and work cooperatively to bring forward recommendations which require the approval of the councils to ratify these citizens. Once the four council representatives are confirmed to the Police Services Board, they will convene to select the two community representatives and a report will be brought to Council.

The advertisement for this role will commence in late-February and the local Clerks group will provide the administrative oversight having familiarity with citizen appointments.

Also noted is that the citizens selected are required to be trained prior to the first meeting of the Police Services Board. Correspondence has been provided to the ministry requesting additional information regarding dates for this mandatory training.

Other Representation

There has not been any communication with respect to the members appointed by the aboriginal communities nor the provincial appointee. Assistance from the Provincial Advisor will be required; however, once the council and community members are appointed – a quorum of the Board will be achieved and meetings can commence.

Administrative Framework

The Middlesex County Police Services Board will require administrative support and with Middlesex Centre and Thames Centre being the larger of the municipalities – a coordinated effort – from all municipalities will be needed.

Middlesex Centre will provide the administrative / secretarial support to this newly formed Board and will dialogue with the member municipalities as needed so that there is a positive transition. Other considerations such as information technology – are addressed as all of the member municipalities use the County of Middlesex Information Technology Framework so existing systems are already in place.

The timelines for this Board is for it to meet four to five times per year and meeting locations will be a hybrid mixture – mostly virtual and may be held in any of the member municipalities facilities.

Next Steps

The next steps are to formalize the Council and Community Representative appointments and work with the Provincial Advisor and the OPP Representatives on the topic items that are required.

Further reports on the development of the Middlesex County Police Services Board will be forthcoming.

Financial Implications:

The framework for the Budget will be evenly distributed across the member municipalities based on population size so that there is an even distribution of costs and expenses – Middlesex Centre will coordinate the costs and expenses where required. Based on the currently Board in Thames Centre – an approximate Budget is in the range of \$40,000-\$50,000 and more understanding of these costs will be realized once the Middlesex PSB is underway with full accounting/reporting to be done and approved through the annual Budget process.

Strategic Plan:

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Responsive Municipal Government

The creation of the newly formed Middlesex Police Services Board has taken quite a few years for the legislation to now be proclaimed. The member municipalities will work towards the April 1st date and the Board will likely have an inaugural meeting sometime in Q2 of this year.

Attachments:

Appendix 1 – Correspondence dated December 18, 2023 from Ministry of the Solicitor General, In-Force date of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019

Appendix 2 – Presentation to Middlesex County on OPP Detachment Boards

Appendix 3 – Correspondence dated September 13, 2023 from Ministry of the Solicitor General, Composition of Middlesex County Police Services Board