

Public

Meeting: **14 May 2018**

Agenda **Finance Committee Meeting – April 9, 2018 -**
Item: **Summary**



Background

Present:

Ms. Rose Rockbrune, Chair
Mr. Allan Furlong
Mr. Randy Wilson
Chief Martin
Deputy Chief Fernandes
Deputy Chief Jaswal
Mr. Stan MacLellan, CAO
Ms. Teresa Hewer, Financial Services Manager
Bill Clancy, Executive Director

Summary of Meeting

Ms. Rose Rockbrune was elected Chair of the Committee for 2018.

1. 2019 Budget

Mr. MacLellan noted the pressures that are expected to bear upon the 2019 budget. Ms. Hewer outlined details of the anticipated cost of the payout of the sick pay gratuity upon retirement, advising this remains a significant budget pressure until throughout 2039 and is not completely exhausted until 2047. The DRPS is working with Regional Finance to address the volatility in the payouts year over year, including the development of a joint funding strategy. Mr. MacLellan noted that WSIB costs also continue to escalate, and that the DRPS is examining the possibility of no longer being a self-insured employer, and will study the potential impacts of changing this status.

Ms. Hewer noted that a long term staffing plan that is in development, and there is the potential to include 10-15 uniform positions in the upcoming budget. Mr. Wilson indicated that any proposal for new staff will need to be very clearly justified and realistic. Chief Martin reminded the Committee that it has been about 10 years since there was any meaningful increase in strength, and that the DRPS will conduct rigorous internal analysis prior to a request coming before the Board. Ms. Hewer noted there is also a significant amount of equipment that will require replacement in the coming years, and that the possibility of a reserve fund for this purpose should be a

consideration for the Board. An additional pressure is the implementation of legislation to legalize cannabis, which is expected this summer. Cost estimates are being developed and it is unclear at this point, what specific level of funding will be available to the Service. Training will need to be provided to officers on the new legislation. The longer it takes to receive the final legislation, the more expensive training could be, as it may be necessary to leverage overtime to fully deliver training. This was experienced last year in order to prepare members for the new Regulation on the Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances.

It was agreed that the Committee would reconvene in June to receive an update on progress and to discuss a potential target for the 2019 budget. DRPS Finance was encouraged to continue to keep Durham Regional Finance apprised of the expected challenges in the policing budget in hopes of shaping the guidelines being drafted for the 2018 Budget.

Approved by: Rose Rockbrune
Chair