



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Toronto Police Services Board – Proposed 2016 Net Operating Budget Request

Date:	November 16, 2015
To:	Budget Committee, City of Toronto
From:	Andy Pringle, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide the Budget Committee with the proposed 2016 net operating budget for the Toronto Police Services Board ('the Board').

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Budget Committee approve a proposed 2016 net operating budget of \$ 2,299,400 which is a decrease of 0.7 % over a 2015 budget of \$ 2,315,800

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed 2016 net operating budget, recommended in this report, represents a decrease of 0.7% over a 2015 budget of \$ 2,315,800. The Board's 2016 operating budget request is a net amount of \$ 2,299,400. This request excludes the impact of any salary agreement that might be reached with the Senior Officers' Organization.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on October 19, 2015, the Board considered a report dated October 8, 2015, containing a proposed 2016 net operating budget for the Board.

COMMENTS

The Board approved the proposed 2016 net operating budget and agreed to forward a copy of it to the City's Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer for information and to the Budget Committee for approval.

CONCLUSION

A copy of Board Minute No. P272/15, in the form attached as Appendix "A", regarding this matter is provided for information.

CONTACT

Andy Pringle, Chair
Toronto Police Services Board
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SIGNATURE

Andy Pringle
Chair

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A – Board Minute No. P272/15

cc. Mr. Rob Rossini, Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer

x: TPSB 2016 operating budget request.doc

APPENDIX "A"

THIS IS AN EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BOARD HELD ON OCTOBER 19, 2015

#P272 TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BOARD – PROPOSED 2016 NET OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

The Board was in receipt of the following report dated October 08, 2015 from Andy Pringle, Chair:

Subject: TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BOARD – PROPOSED 2016 NET
OPERATING BUDGET

Recommendation:

It is recommended:

1. THAT the Board approve a proposed 2016 net operating budget of \$ 2,299,400 which is a decrease of 0.7 % over a 2015 budget of \$ 2,315,800
2. THAT the Board forward this report to the City's Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer for information; and,
3. THAT the Board forward this report to the City's Budget Committee for approval.

Financial Implications:

The proposed 2016 net operating budget, recommended in this report, represents a decrease of 0.7% over a 2015 budget of \$ 2,315,800. The Toronto Police Services Board (TPSB) 2016 operating budget request is a net amount of \$ 2,299,400. This request excludes the impact of any salary agreement that might be reached with the Senior Officers' Organization.

Background/Purpose:

The Toronto Police Services Board's 2016 operating budget target, as recommended by the City of Toronto, is a -1.0 % decrease over the 2015 approved net operating budget and further efficiency measures amounting to -2.0% .

Discussion:

New initiatives focussed on efficiency and effectiveness:

Enhanced financial review and monitoring

In September 2015, the Board allocated funds to provide the Board with consulting expertise in budget review and financial accountability. On an "as needed" basis throughout 2016, the Board will have an enhanced ability to scrutinize budgets, review variance reporting, assess the utilization of the Board's Special Fund and monitor implementation of certain Board policies.

Staff report for action on TPSB –2016 Net Operating Budget Request

Automating the Board agenda and minutes process

The requested operating budget includes funds to initiate a competitive process to acquire software and hardware necessary to implement a fully electronic, “paperless” agenda and minute preparation and distribution process. This advancement will reduce paper, toner and courier costs but, more significantly, will create efficiencies for administrative staff, Board Members and senior members of the Toronto Police Service. It is also expected to improve the transparency of the Board’s deliberations through more timely production of agendas and minutes.

Initiatives pending:

Data Collection and Analysis – Community Contacts

In the 2015 operating budget, the Board had approved the inclusion of \$250,000 to secure an external consultant or evaluator to determine what type of data should be collected, the retention period and the scope of the data required as a result of the Boards approval of the Community Contacts Policy (Board Minute P102/14 refers). During 2015, the Board amended its Community Contacts policy and later in the year, the province announced that it would be drafting a Regulation made under the *Police Services Act* with respect to such contacts. Given these developments, the Board did not expend funds related to data collection. The 2016 operating budget request includes a reduced amount of funding should this project come to fruition.

Consideration of Further Reductions: Non-salary Accounts

The Board has very limited options in terms of achieving further reductions. In terms of non-salary accounts, when the amounts allocated for the City Legal chargeback, the City Audit Services chargeback, external consulting and project costs and for external labour relations legal counsel are factored out of the budget, the actual administrative costs proposed in the 2016 budget amount to only \$ 75,000.

The proposed 2016 budget includes funding for limited professional development and learning opportunities for all Board members by providing sufficient funds for their attendance at the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards’ (OAPSB) conference and the Canadian Association of Police Governance’s (CAPG) conference.

Funds will not be available in the event that the Board requires legal advice other than that which is available from the City of Toronto Legal department or from the Board’s contracted labour relations law firm. Similarly, no funds will be available should the Board require any external consulting advice beyond that which is requested for the potential data analysis project arising from the Community Contacts Policy.

It will continue to be difficult to contain expenditures within the proposed legal services accounts. In the view of Human Resources Management which administers these accounts on behalf of the Board, any further reduction will likely mean that the Labour Relations Unit would not meet its anticipated financial obligations. Although recent settlement statistics related to labour disputes and grievances do indicate that fewer matters proceed to hearings, the matters that do proceed to hearings are increasingly complex. These matters tend to consume substantial legal resources, including time for preparation and arbitration.

Consideration: Salary and Benefit Accounts

The budget request in the Board's salary and benefit accounts, totalling \$963,200, includes staff salary/benefits and Board Member remuneration.

Board staff members provide the administrative support to ensure the Board's provision of civilian oversight to the community. As such, the work performed by the staff is fundamentally linked to the Board's ability to provide adequate and effective police services to the community.

Board staff must not only deal with the significant volume of work generated by the Board on a day-to-day basis but also manage on-going strategic, proactive policy initiatives; both are areas that are critical in meeting the Board's legislative mandate.

Currently, with the Board's limited staff, it is often challenging to meet the existing demands.

Further, in 2015 the Board received a final report on the implementation of the recommendations arising from Justice Morden's *Independent Civilian Review into Matters Relating to the G20 Summit*. This report recommends a substantially expanded and strengthened role for civilian governance of the Toronto Police Service. In his report at page 37, Justice Morden writes:

The Board and its staff in the past have increasingly shouldered a heavy burden in carrying out their responsibilities. If my recommendations are implemented this burden will be increased. Likely, this will necessitate the devotion of further resources to support the Board's work.

The Board is currently assessing its governance role and the resources available to support that role.

Conclusion:

I recommend that the Board approve a 2016 net operating budget of \$2,299,400 which is a decrease of 0.7% over a 2015 budget of \$ 2,315,800.

The Board approved the foregoing report.

Moved by: C. Lee