

STAFF REPORT: CAO



REPORT TO: Council
MEETING DATE: March 10, 2008
REPORT NO.: CAO.08.05
SUBJECT: Police Services Contract
PREPARED BY: Paul Graham, CAO

A. Recommendations

THAT Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute an agreement with the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services for the provision of Police Services by the Ontario Provincial Police and;

THAT Council pass By-Law No. 2008-26 authorizing the execution of this agreement.

B. Background

As Council is aware, the previous Agreement for the Provision of Police Services by the OPP came to an end the last day of 2007. During our recent budget process, we included funding for the Ontario Provincial Police to continue to provide police services to the Town of The Blue Mountains.

We recommend that Council accept the attached contract for Police Services and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the agreement. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services also request that the Municipality pass a By-Law authorizing the execution of the agreement.

The Agreement anticipates the provision of services by the Ontario Provincial Police for a period of five years, commencing January 1, 2008. Provisions in the Agreement are very similar to our last Agreement and provide the same policing complement for the first two years of the contract. In 2010 the Agreement anticipates that one additional constable will be added to the complement and those levels are to be maintained to the end of the contract in 2012.

The Agreement provides that the Town will have its own dedicated police staff with a designated Sargeant, constables and support staff, all guided by our own Police Services Board.

In order to make Police Servicing more affordable for both the Town of The Blue Mountains and the Town of Collingwood, the two communities share the costs of the OPP management at the Collingwood Detachment including the Inspector Sargeant levels and related support staff.

Council will recall that our 2008 Capital Budget provides for the construction of the new Police Station in Thornbury. In addition to this Police Station, we will continue to share the use of the Police Station in Collingwood, as discussed during the budget process.

The Town of The Blue Mountains is very fortunate to have an excellent working relationship with the Ontario Provincial Police and we, therefore, recommend that we proceed to renew a Contract with them, as outlined above.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Community safety is a vital portion of developing a sustainable community. It also represents a significant component in providing a strong, well managed local government.

D. Budget Impact

Budget documents indicate the following costs for the years 2008 through 2010 for police services:

	2008	2009	2010
Policing Costs	\$2,086,405	\$2,156,251	\$2,338,282

Of these costs above, the majority of the costs are for the OPP contract services. For example, in 2008, it is anticipated that those costs will represent approximately \$2,059,000. The balance of the costs are related to the rental of space from Collingwood and Operating Costs at the new Thornbury Police Station.

The Capital Budget also contains \$525,000 for the construction of a new Police Station plus the provision for related furniture and equipment. In the case of this Capital Cost, that project is funded from development charges and a capital reserve for police services.

E. Attached

1. Agreement for the Provision of Police Services
2. A By-Law authorizing the execution of the agreement

Respectfully submitted,

Signature