

BUDGET COMMITTEE – JANUARY 31, 2005

SPECIAL CONSTABLE STATUS REPORT

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services, in consultation with the Senior Manager of Enforcement Services, recommends that this item be received.

Purpose

This report is to provide the Budget Committee with a status update regarding the Special Constable Project.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Budget Committee at its meeting on January 18, 2005 (Item 11, Report 4) requested an update on the Special Constable project in the City of Vaughan

The City of Vaughan Special Constable Project has been in existence since March 2003 when a formal presentation was made to the York Region Police Services Board requesting enhanced authority in a number of statutes.

Since that time there have been a number of meetings between staff and Police officials. There have been a number of reports brought forward to Council, the latest one went before Council on September 13, 2004. This report was to appoint Council members and staff to a working group developed by the Police to meet with interested municipalities to determine where enhanced authorities may be useful. This group has met twice since September and another meeting is planned for February 3, 2005.

On January 24, 2005, Council received a report advising that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and the Police Association of Ontario are both taking the position that only sworn police officers should operate photo enforcement equipment when it is re-instated in the future. This position, which is apparently supported by the Provincial Government, appears to restrict the use of Special Constables for photo radar.

It is anticipated that the working group will conclude its meetings at some point in 2005. Subsequent to that the Police Services Board will decide whether Special Constable Status will be granted.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision

This is in keeping with the Vaughan Vision as it is in keeping with the goal of creating a safe community.

Conclusion

The process toward Special Constable Authority for a limited number of staff in the Enforcement Services Department is ongoing at this time but is expected to be resolved at some point in 2005.

Attachments

None.

Report prepared by:

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Senior Manager, Enforcement Services

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Swayze

Commissioner of Legal & Administrative Services