



**TOWNSHIP OF CHATSWORTH
CAO CLERK'S REPORT 2019-31**

TO: Mayor Mackey and Members of Council

FROM: Patty Sinnamon, CAO Clerk

RE: West Grey Police Services Proposal to Provide Policing

DATE: October 16, 2019

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT CAO Clerk's Report 2019-31 regarding the West Grey Police Services proposal to provide policing to the Township of Chatsworth be hereby received for information.

1 BACKGROUND:

This report is being provided to Council to summarize the findings to date regarding an invited proposal from the West Grey Police Services to provide policing to the Township of Chatsworth.

A copy of my initial report to Council dated June 5, 2019, is attached as a starting point. As a result of that report, staff arranged for a public meeting on September 19th, 2019, inviting the West Grey Police Services to present their proposal to the public. The Ontario Provincial Police were also invited to make a presentation and/or provide comments. The public meeting, held in Williamsford was attended by approximately 80 residents. A copy of the presentations by myself as CAO Clerk and West Grey Police Chief Robert Martin are located on the homepage of the Township's website (www.chatsworth.ca).

At the public meeting, those in attendance were invited to ask questions to either or both West Grey Police Chief Martin or OPP Inspector Martin Murray. Those questions and subsequent answers are also attached. All reports, presentations and documentation have also been posted on the website. The public questions and answers are attached for your information.

2. COST COMPARISON

Under the current OPP Billing Model, the Township of Chatsworth paid \$1,022,059 in 2018. The estimated cost per household for 2019 is \$321.57 or \$1,047,991.. It should be noted that a year end adjustment for overtime is generally made in subsequent years. The Township has now received the estimated cost per household for 2020 budgeting purposes, with a slight increase of \$5.46 or 1.7%

A cost per household analysis is shown in the table below based on the 2019 OPP cost and the proposal submitted by West Grey. The municipality has now received the 2020 billing statement

	WGPS	Current OPP
Annual Cost (Adjusted)	855,675.	\$1,047,991
Cost Per Household - Chatsworth	\$262.56	\$321.57

The cost per household is based on Chatsworth having 3,259 residential and commercial/industrial properties. Vacant land is not counted in the property count.

West Grey has 5,852 properties. In 2018 West Grey residents paid \$524.26 per household based on a budget of \$3,061,241.

The West Grey proposal is a five year fixed cost contract, plus \$15,500.00 start up capital costs in year 1. A capital expenditure of \$55,000 for a patrol vehicle would be expected in year 3 of the contract. The Total five year contract price would be \$4,348,875.

The Township of Chatsworth would realize a cost savings of approximately \$192,322. annually with a five year savings of \$961,608.. This report does not take into account any annual increase of the OPP contract for the next five years.

The West proposal does not appear to include any overhead costs (ie. building operations costs) and therefore those costs are absorbed by West Grey for the five year term of the contract.

The terms of a renewal are unknown at this time, however it can surmised that West Grey would expect a "levelling out" of costs per household between West Grey and Chatsworth residents. That scenario could see the Chatsworth renewal increasing by approximately \$109.00 per household.

West Grey households	5,852
Chatsworth households	<u>3,259</u>
Total Households	9,111

Using a combined West Grey 2018 Budget of	\$3,061,241
proposed annual contract of	<u>\$ 855,675</u>
Total Cost	\$3,916,916

Divided by # of households	9,111
Equals Potential Cost per Household at Renewal	\$429.91

West Grey residents could potentially see a reduction of \$94.35 and Chatsworth residents would see an increase of \$108.34 at renewal. This has the potential of increasing the annual cost to Chatsworth to \$1,401,076.. This calculation does not take into consideration any annual operational costs at the renewal period. Any cost savings to Chatsworth in the first five year term would quickly be expended during the first two years of renewal, should the renewal proposal include a “levelling out of costs among West Grey and Chatsworth residents.

West Grey is also exploring the construction of a new police headquarters. It is unknown what the budget impact to Chatsworth would be both from a capital expense and/or increased operating costs.

The cost estimates per household may shift somewhat as there is an opportunity for residential growth in West Grey with the recent approval of a new subdivision.

Revenue (ie. fines, fees for services, RIDE and Prisoner Transportation Grants, have been taken into account in the budgeted costs per household.

The updated 2015 OPP Billing Model incorporates a “base service cost” which is determined by the number of properties in a municipality and a standard province-wide average base cost per property.

Calls for Service under the OPP Billing Model include crime calls (assaults, break & enters, mischief, drug offences, etc.), Provincial Statute Enforcement (Mental Health Act, Trespass to Property Act, Landlord/Tenant disputes), Motor Vehicle Collisions (property damage, personal injury, fatality, etc.), and General Calls (false alarms, lost property, missing persons).

For Council’s information, below is a list of municipalities currently policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and their associated cost per property for 2019. Chatsworth currently is in line with the Municipality of West Grey:

• Adjala-Tosorontio/Essa/New Tecumseth	\$391.91
• Blue Mountains	\$340.56
• Clearview	\$346.37
• Collingwood	\$425.86
• Grey Highlands	\$322.67
• Kincardine	\$364.47
• Mono	\$346.02
• Southgate	\$343.18
• Wasaga Beach	\$370.55

3. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT AT END OF FIVE YEAR TERM

Should Chatsworth end the contract at the end of the five year term, Chatsworth is responsible for all “transitional costs including severance, accrued vacation, sick leave, pension adjustments, etc.

The transitional costs could see any savings over the term of the contract be expended. Severance costs would be determined based on years of service, age and common law settlements. Recent awards

Should Council decide to contract police services with the West Grey Police Services, any budgetary savings over the five year term of the contract, should continue to be budgeted and those funds put into reserve to offset any unknown costs, either due to a termination of the contract or increased costs at renewal.

4. OVERTIME

The West Grey proposal includes a cost for overtime at \$7,000.00 per year. While this is a fixed cost for the next five years, it should be noted that the annual billing to the Township of Chatsworth by the OPP sets out overtime costs to be significantly higher and is estimated at \$24,649 for 2019; Reconciled overtime costs for 2018 were \$55,783. 2017 - \$51,837. and 2016 - \$15,530.

Overtime under the OPP model includes time resulting from occurrences in the contracted area and a portion of overtime that is not linked specifically to a municipality, such as training. Municipalities are not charged for overtime identified as a provincial responsibility.

5. LEVEL OF SERVICE

5.1 Calls for Service

The chart below is a comparison of the calls for service for the past four years.

	WGPS	OPP
2018		974
2017	989	801
2016	808	865
2015	602	793

A detailed analysis has not been undertaken to better understand and evaluate the two policing models from a day to day operation standpoint.

5.2 Staffing

The West Grey Police Service consists of the following personnel:

- 1 Chief of Police
- Records Manager
- 3 Patrol Sergeants
- 1 Detective Constable (Criminal Investigation)
- 13 Full Time Constables
- 3 Part Time Constables

The costing submission proposes the following personnel:

5 Constables – one officer is assigned from the four platoons to service Chatsworth as General Patrol Officer (6:00 – 18:00 and 18:00- 6:00 hours)

Patrol Sergeant – Proposal includes .25 FTE Sergeant. Supervisory resources are shared among other municipal police services.

There is no allocation of the Police Chief's salary in the proposal.

Back up officers would be deployed from other West Grey Zones if needed. The submission does not address how court time and/or personal leave (ie. vacation, sick, etc.) would be covered if the dedicated Chatsworth officer is absent.

Under the OPP model, there are several reporting locations that make up the Chatsworth Detachment; namely Chatsworth, Markdale, Meaford and Warton. A total of 16 constables and 2 sergeants report to those detachments and then cover the area as needed. One of the sergeants along with 2 staff sergeants report to Chatsworth.

There are currently 108 officers/sergeants assigned to the Grey Bruce Detachment area.

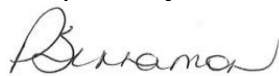
Further, the Collective Agreement between the West Grey Police Services Board and the West Grey Police Association expires on December 31, 2019. Any cost impacts of a renewed contract have not been taken into consideration.

NEXT STEPS

Council has not had an opportunity to directly ask questions of West Grey Police Services or OPP. Should Council wish to do so, the November 5th Council meeting has been targeted for this purpose and this date has been shared with both Chief Martin and Inspector Murray. Council would then be in a position to make a final decision at the November Council meeting, keeping in mind that should Council wish to not renew the OPP contract, notice must be given by December 31, 2019. The current contract expires on December 31, 2020.

In the event that Council chooses to move forward with the WGPS proposal, a request would be made to WG to prepare a draft contract for consideration. A timeline should be established to ensure that ample time is given for Chatsworth legal counsel to review and enter into a written agreement

Respectfully submitted,



Patty Sinnamon, Dipl.M.M.
CAO Clerk

WEST GREY POLICE SERVICES PROPOSAL FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICING SERVICES

Q & A's from Public Meeting held in Williamsford on Thursday September 19, 2019

QUESTIONS POSED TO WEST GREY POLICE SERVICES CHIEF ROBERT MARTIN:

1. **How many female officers does West Grey Currently have?**

Two

2. **The proposal indicates that Chatsworth would be responsible for any transition costs including severances should Chatsworth end the contract at the end of the five year period. What are those costs?**

This would have to be negotiated between West Grey and Chatsworth. It would be based on the new personnel hired to keep costs as low as possible for the municipality ending the working agreement. Hopefully this is a long term relationship and these severances would not be implemented.

3. **How can West Grey justify the proposed cost of a vehicle covering Chatsworth 24/7 for just \$30.00 per day?**

The costs are additional to what is already allotted for the vehicle in the budget and is not only \$30.00 per day. The zone officer would also be doing foot patrol and possibly use the Fire Hall to complete paper work, phone calls, etc. The vehicle would not be in motion 24/7.

4. **Both the Municipality of West Grey and Township of Chatsworth have large coverage areas. What would your response time be from West Grey to Chatsworth?**

It currently takes nine minutes to get across West Grey. We will get there as fast and safely as we are able. The car in the closest zone and closest to the call will be sent. We are confident that we can provide same response as we provide now in West Grey to Chatsworth.

5. How visible are your officers when on duty?

Visibility is very important to community policing. Foot patrol and school zone patrols are a daily expectation for our officers.

6. If the cost of the proposed service was not on the table, I would like to hear one compelling reason why we should choose West Grey Police Service.

We are a community focused organization and we hire local officers would have direct ties to the community. One of our foundations is a constant community presence.

7. Your proposal includes \$25,000.00 for a Sergeant – what are we getting for \$25,000.00?

You would be getting a sergeant available to the officer covering the Chatsworth zone, sometimes as his back up but always as a resource for him/her.

8. What amount of mental health training do your officers receive?

West Grey Officers have R2MR training and in addition our supervisors have ASIST suicide intervention training, crisis negotiations and de-escalation techniques. We have a two member peer support team which is associated with Owen Sound, Hanover and Shelburne's teams as well. These team members have been trained in R2MR. Mental Health First aid, Trauma Informed Peer Support and Suicide Intervention as well as CISM debriefings. West Grey is proud to have successfully transitioned three members with PTSD back to full duties.

9. How many officers would be assigned to Chatsworth during each shift?

The proposal calls for one officers to be assigned to Chatsworth and the officers working in West Grey are would be available for back up.

10. If there is only one officer assigned to a shift, who would be attending community events.

Community events are not general attended by an on duty staff. These events are covered by myself as Chief, off duty officers, the Administrative Sgt. and auxiliary officers, of which we currently have six. .

11. There is a significant discrepancy in cost to West Grey residents from \$524.26 to Chatsworth's proposed costs of \$268.43. If the contract is renewed in five years with West Grey, can we expect the same cost?

The contract renewal will depend on both Councils and what they wish to pay for in terms of policing for the community.

12. My question is about communication and is two parts – first, are you renewing your contract with Owen Sound?

Yes, in fact it was renewed a month ago with a four year contract term.

Now that your contract with Owen Sound is completed, will your proposal to Chatsworth have to be amended.

No, we have proposed a five year fixed contract. We will have to look at the cost at renewal.

13. There is a difference in what West Grey is paying versus what you are offering to Chatsworth. Who is at risk here for costs?

We have provided a fixed costs for five years and I am confident we can provide policing for what the proposal states. The proposal the West Grey Police were requested to prepare was for one officer for the Township of Chatsworth. .

14. What capacity do you have to patrol the two lakes?

We partner with the Ministry of Natural Resources and if needed can increase that if required. We also have an agreement through West Grey to use the Hanover Fire Service for water rescues. .

15. Can you please clarify the platoon structure and zones?

We currently have four platoons. Each zone has one officer assigned. Chatsworth will become its own zone. We also have shared services for supervisors with the Hanover Police Service.

WEST GREY POLICE SERVICES PROPOSAL FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICING SERVICES

**Q & A's from Public Meeting held in Williamsford
on Thursday September 19, 2019**

QUESTIONS POSED TO OPP INSPECTOR MARTIN MURRAY

- 1. If the cost of the proposed service was not on the table, I would like to hear one compelling reason why we should choose West Grey Police Service.**
Quite simply it comes down to capacity. The Ontario Provincial Police has a long standing history across the Province and we have the capacity to get there and do what is necessary. We have an overarching public safety that can be drawn from resources across the Province.
- 2. In 2019 Chatsworth experienced an increase in their household cost. What is that made up of?**
Costing is based on a per household cost. If there are more houses, the base cost would go up.
- 3. What amount of mental health training do your officers receive?**
The OPP takes mental health training very seriously and has a robust program to ensure that not only the public is well, but our officers are well also. We have access to emergency response workers with the LHIN (Local Health Integration Networks) who have a clinician embedded into our program.
- 4. How many officers would be assigned to Chatsworth during each shift?**
The current staffing model is such that one officer is not enough for Chatsworth given the multiple calls we deal with. The OPP has an integrated service delivery model that allows me to bring in additional officers from other areas.

5. Who would be attending community events if the OPP continues to provide policing?

Community events would be handled the same way we do now – we have several auxiliary members as well as two community service officers.

6. How many officers are on duty on any given day?

We have sixteen officers assigned to each shift.

7. What capacity do you have to patrol the two lakes?

We have the availability of a marine unit with a boat on a truck 24/7. We have been on all Chatsworth lakes this summer and in addition we were at McCullough Lake yesterday.