

Title: By-law Enforcement Enhancement

Report Number: PDS2021-16

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Report Prepared: April 13, 2021

# **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

- 1. That Council approve the recruitment of two (2) additional by-law enforcement officers temporarily until September 2021 with the possibility of extension funded by the Safe Restart program to assist with the increased demand during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- That Council approve a \$2,000 overrun to the By-law Enforcement Capital budget to purchase additional computer software licenses for the proposed positions.

#### **REPORT:**

Over the past 13 months the By-law Enforcement Division within municipalities have been assigned as the primary enforcement agency for the provincial orders issued in relation to Covid-19 under the Reopening Ontario Act as well as the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. This enforcement was added in addition to current municipal by-law enforcement matters.

The By-law Enforcement Division has been able to manage the increased work load thus far by way of providing overtime shifts to by-law enforcement officers and decreasing the amount of coverage during the week to accommodate limited coverage on the weekends. This work plan is no longer sustainable as employees have become burnt out due to the increased hours, workload, stresses associated with the current pandemic and the increased work load associated with the approaching warm weather. By-law enforcement officers require a specialized knowledge of the legal processes and legislation and also require the ability to handle difficult situations on a regular basis.

After review of the situation, staff have identified the need to retain two additional by-law enforcement officers as casual employees to temporarily assist in providing appropriate coverage during the week as well as providing coverage over the weekends.

Currently, the By-law Enforcement Division is able to provide two to three officers on duty each day of the week, one officer on Saturdays and no coverage on Sundays. The

addition of two more by-law enforcement officers will allow the Division to provide additional officers on duty each day including Sundays.

Funding for the two proposed casual positions will be provided by the Safe Restart contribution made by the Government of Canada.

#### **BUDGETARY STATUS:**

\$2,000 capital budget overrun for computer software licenses.

### STRATEGIC PLAN:

Vibrant, Inclusive Neighbourhoods

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A

PREPARED BY: "original signed" Jason Simpson, Chief Building Official

**SUBMITTED BY: "original signed" Paul Moore, Director of Planning & Development Services** 

APPROVED BY: "original signed" Manoj Dilwaria, Chief Administrative Officer