

**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Town Hall – Council Chambers & Facebook Live  
Monday, April 7, 2025 – Immediately following the  
Committee of the Whole meeting**



**AGENDA:**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
  
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
  
- 3. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 3.1. RFD 013-2025 Increase in RCMP Officers – CAO
  - 3.2. RFD 014-2025 Interim Budget – CAO
  
- 4. ADJOURNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR DECISION**  
**Increase in RCMP Officers**  
**RFD#: 013-2025**



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**To:** COTW and Town Council  
**From:** Ashley Crocker, CAO  
**Date:** April 7, 2025  
**Subject:** Increase in RCMP Officers for 2025-2026

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**Guiding Principles for Decision-Making**

**Accountability    Transportation    Diversity    Sustainability    Engaged    Informed**

References/Attachments

- Draft Letter to Honourable Becky Druhan, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Legislation

- N/A

Recommendation

That Town Council approve adding 2 additional RCMP Officers to the Annapolis District RCMP, for which the Town will be responsible for 25% of the costs, totaling approximately \$115,000 for the fiscal 2025-2026 year.

That Town Council direct the Mayor and CAO to sign and send the attached draft letter to Honourable Becky Druhan, Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Background

The Annapolis District RCMP initiated a General Duty Policing Resource Methodology (GDPRM) in 2023 which is conducted by the RCMP. The last time a GDPRM was done in Annapolis County was in 2012. The GDPRM looked at actual statistics from the year 2022. It showed that crime in our area has been on the rise over the past five years and is still increasing. The GDPRM also highlighted that general duty officers have negative “proactive” time when the National benchmark is a minimum of 35%. To bring this percentage up to 35%, an additional 8 officers are required in the Annapolis County District. Currently, the Town of Middleton pays for 25% of the total costs of RCMP in Annapolis District, with the County of Annapolis covering the remaining 75%.

The RCMP recommended adding 4 officers in 2024 (this was done), 2 in 2025 and 2 in 2026.

**REQUEST FOR DECISION**  
**Increase in RCMP Officers**  
**RFD#: 013-2025**



Financial Implications

Adding two additional RCMP officers to Annapolis District RCMP will mean the Town will have to pay 25% of the total cost. This is consistent with the cost-sharing model currently in place with the County of Annapolis. The cost per officer in 2024-2025 was approximately \$220,000. The RCMP have not yet communicated what increases may occur in 2025-2026, but assuming a 5% increase, the cost per officer in 2025-2026 could be approximately \$230,000. Two officers would total approximately \$460,000 and the Town’s share at 25% would be approximately \$115,000. Staff are currently working on the draft budget and will add this additional cost in.

Strategic Plan/Operating Plan Alignment

| Check Applicable | Strategic Priority Area      | Comments  |
|------------------|------------------------------|---|
|                  | Environment                  |   |
|                  | Infrastructure               |   |
|                  | Economy                      |   |
| X                | Community                    | Adding two additional RCMP officers to the Annapolis District RCMP will increase safety and police presence within the Town |
|                  | Governance                   |   |
|                  | Council Strategic Initiative |   |

Alternatives

N/A

Community Engagement/Communication

N/A

CAO Comments

The CAO supports the recommendation of staff.

CAO Initials: AC

Target Decision Date: 7 April 2025



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April 7, 2025

Honourable Becky Druhan  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
Province of Nova Scotia  
PO Box 7, 1690 Hollis Street Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 2L6  
[justmin@novascotia.ca](mailto:justmin@novascotia.ca)

Dear Minister Druhan:

The Town of Middleton and the Municipality of the County of Annapolis underwent a policing review for under the direction of the Nova Scotia RCMP "H" Division Headquarters to determine the current state and condition of policing within the Annapolis County District. The review was completed, and the results were shared with both municipal councils in February 2024.

The results of the General Duty Policing Resource Methodology (GDPRM) show that crime has increased over the past several years and continues to rise. In addition, the review highlighted that the ability for our officers to do proactive policing was non-existent in 2022 with the current front line policing model of 14 general duty positions. It was evident from the review that more general duty police officers are needed in the Annapolis County District.

To improve these policing conditions and to ensure Annapolis County is provided with an effective and efficient policing service, the Town of Middleton will be budgeting 25% of the total cost of adding 2 general duty officers effective April 1, 2025. This is conditional upon the Municipality of the County of Annapolis also approving their required 75% share of 2 additional officers. This will enable 2 new officers to serve Annapolis County immediately. **We therefore request your approval for the addition of 2 new policing positions in the Annapolis County District effective April 1, 2025.**

Although an increase in the number of officers will be financially challenging, the Town of Middleton is committed to implementing the results of the GDPRM review over the next several years in conjunction with the County of Annapolis. We look forward to your approval of this request, in addition to the application by the County of Annapolis for an increase of 2 general duty officers.

If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me by phone at (902) 825-4841, or by email at [gsmith@town.middleton.ns.ca](mailto:gsmith@town.middleton.ns.ca).

Sincerely yours,

Gail Smith  
Mayor  
Town of Middleton

**REQUEST FOR DECISION  
INTERIM BUDGET FOR 2025-2026  
RFD#: 014-2025**



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**To:** COTW and Town Council  
**From:** Ashley Crocker, CAO  
**Date:** April 7, 2025  
**Subject:** Town of Middleton – Interim Budget

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**Guiding Principles for Decision-Making**

**Accountability   Transportation   Diversity   Sustainability   Engaged   Informed**

[References/Attachments](#)

[Recommendation](#)

That Council approve one-half of the Town General Operating Budget of 2024-2025, in the amount of \$2,194,307, for the purpose of providing spending authority in the new fiscal year 2025-2026.

That Council approve one-half of the Water Operating Budget of 2023-2024, in the amount of \$358,956, for the purpose of providing spending authority in the new fiscal year 2024-2025.

[Background](#)

The approval of an interim budget is required to comply with legislation since the 2025-2026 budget will not be adopted prior to April 1, 2025.

The approval of an interim budget will allow for the payment of expenses for normal operating needs and the provision of services to ratepayers.

Staff are working on the draft 2025-2026 Operating and Capital budgets, but due to vacancies in the Finance Department, a budget will not be ready for Council approval until likely May 2025.

[Financial Implications](#)

There are no direct financial implications.

The approval of the interim budget would allow for a baseline to monitor revenues and expenditures prior to the annual budget being adopted.

No capital expenditures will take place until Council approves the 2025-2026 Capital Budget.

**REQUEST FOR DECISION  
 INTERIM BUDGET FOR 2025-2026  
 RFD#: 014-2025**



Strategic Plan/Operating Plan Alignment

| Check<br>Applicable | Strategic Priority<br>Area      | Comments |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
|                     | Environment                     |          |
|                     | Infrastructure                  |          |
|                     | Economy                         |          |
|                     | Community                       |          |
| X                   | Governance                      |          |
|                     | Council Strategic<br>Initiative |          |

Alternatives

N/A

Community Engagement/Communication

N/A

CAO Comments

CAO supports approving an interim budget so that regular business activities can take place.

CAO Initials:      AC     

Target Decision Date:   7 April 2025