

Council fills vacant position on Police Service Board

By **Dan Gray** - February 1, 2022 @ 2:14 pm



A councillor has suggested looking for ways to improve our police services by going outside the community. Another wants the budget under control and to investigate a new building, Council had to choose.

Before the simultaneous virtual vote during last night's council meeting, each of the two candidates had a moment to explain why they should be voted in.



Councillor Sandra Hollingsworth pitched her ideas, which included a plan to look at other municipalities and to investigate bringing some of those ideas to the Sault. She noted she

wanted to use these cities as way to fix safety in our community.

"Safety, speeding and also I've did suggest that the old royal bank be turned into a police station down in the downtown area. I do have some other ideas that I'd like to pursue," stated Hollingsworth. "Working closely and researching what Detroit has done, and other communities, including Windsor, and also Mississauga, these are some ideas that I like to bring towards our Police Service Board. Look at other communities and, and give them a try. So safety is number one for our children, our family in our seniors."

Councillor Matthew Shoemaker was adamant on helping contain the Police Budget as well as investigating a new building for the service.

"At budget time it was clear that that there was an opportunity at the Police Service Board to examine different ways of doing things, including there a motion on tonight's agenda... (Which) was recently brought at at the Police Service Board to examine the potential for consolidating with the city's civilian staff that was an area to express some interest in," said Shoemaker. "I've expressed an interest over the last while in seeing a new police station or some facets of the police station moved downtown. Those are all efforts that I want to pursue as a member of the board for the remainder of this council term."

In the end it was almost a unanimous vote for Councillor Shoemaker to take the position on the board. His first meeting will be later this month.

Thank-you for choosing SaultOnline/ONNTV as your source for news in Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding area.

Dan Gray

A native of Centre Wellington, Ontario, I have worked as a freelance journalist all over the province of Ontario. Most recently I ran a local news page in my hometown of Fergus, Ontario. I look forward to bringing my experience covering breaking news, municipal matters and general interest stories to the team at Superior Media and communities we serve.



