

Received Date	January 07, 2019
Meeting Date	January 14, 2019
Open or Closed	Open Session

His Worship Don Darling and
Members of Common Council

Subject: Expanding the Saint John Common Council Committee Structure

Background:

WHEREAS:

1. Saint John Common Council has worked within a Committee form of governance since September 2016, when the City Manager was directed on July 16, 2016 to establish two Committees (Finance and Growth).
2. The Finance Committee and Growth Committee, since being implemented as part of the committee pilot project, have been received very favourably, while also improving Council focus, collective understanding and results.
3. The City Manager's review of the Committee structure in March 2017, which followed 6 months of assessment, indicated positive results, a desire to continue the current structure and signalled positive ambition to include other possible Committees (e.g. Public Safety, Community Services, Environment).
4. The creation of the Finance Committee and Growth Committee have not interfered with the regular reporting from agencies, boards and commissions with significant financial or operational linkage with the City but have enhanced reporting and opportunities for improvement and value to citizens.
5. Whereas staff have opportunity to make recommendations to simplify, where possible, the structure of City controlled agencies, boards and commissions the creation of a Public Safety Committee can encourage this to continue (e.g. EMO Committee eliminated and now be managed within the Public Safety Committee).
6. Public Safety Services amount to a significant sum of \$57,061,725 of the 2019 General Operating Budget. Alternatively, a property assessment of \$170,000, tax rate of \$1.785 per \$100 of assessment and property tax bill of \$3,035, would see \$1,080 go directly towards Fire & Safety Services and Police & PSSC.

Motion:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council direct the City Manager, to develop a plan to expand the City of Saint John Common Council Committee Structure to include a third Committee, that being a Public Safety Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

(Received via email)

Greg Norton
Councillor Ward 1
City of Saint John

