Good afternoon,

Orangeville Council at its June 8, 2020 meeting passed the following resolution:

“WHEREAS The Town of Orangeville recognizes there have been questions in the public related to both diversity training and use of force training and protocols for Police Services, including in Ontario;

WHEREAS the Town recognizes that police officers join this profession out of a desire to do good, to serve and to protect the communities they serve;

AND WHEREAS an understanding of community diversity can foster authentic inclusion;

AND WHEREAS empathy training, and de-escalation training, can support understanding other people’s perspectives;

AND WHEREAS the Town recognizes that policing can be a dangerous profession, and officer as well as community safety are critical considerations in law enforcement;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Provincial Police have indicated they have a comprehensive diversity training program, however there may not be the same resources available across the entire province for smaller Police Services;

AND WHEREAS there is concern in the public about the boundaries of use of force, such as neck restraints, and oversight;

AND WHEREAS there isn’t clarity on a common bar on diversity and empathy training or on use of force and oversight;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor write to the Solicitor General to encourage common training requirements for all members of Police Services in Ontario as it relates to diversity, empathy and use of force;

AND THAT the Solicitor General provide clarity on police oversight going forward given the anticipated changes to legislation to ensure effective accountability continues;

AND THAT annual updates or refresher courses be mandatory to ensure our Police Services have the best and current information available to them;

AND THAT THE TOWN request that the use of force protocols be reviewed to ensure they are safe and would meet current standards, and then shared across the province;

AND THAT THE TOWN circulate this resolution to all Ontario municipalities seeking their support."

Regards,

Tracy Macdonald| Assistant Clerk | Corporate Services
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