

Mono to establish policing task force

By Jasen Obermeyer

Mono Council has supported a motion by Deputy Mayor John Creelman to establish a task force to investigate the current police resources in town.

The motion was originally put forth at the inaugural council meeting in December. It was decided then that they would hear from Dufferin OPP detachment commander Staff Sgt. Nicole Randall before an approval was given.

‘Essentially to determine whether we have appropriate level of policing, whether we need to revisit the current contract with the OPP, whether the contract is kept up with such things as the growth in our population,’ said Deputy Mayor Creelman.

The task force will include members of the public, the OPP, Police Services Board, support staff and members of Council to examine whether the town has adequate policing resources under the contract with the OPP and if not, how they should provide for additional resources.

They will also assess and recommend specific solutions and how to work with appropriate bodies for improvements, to examining speeding and other Highway Traffic Act infractions, and whether Mono should petition the Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice to increase the set fines.

‘We work really hard at trying to resolve the major issues that we have; Highway 10, Hockley Road, Airport Road,’ Staff Sgt. Randall told council.

‘I’d like to keep it focused on our issues in Mono,’ commented Deputy Mayor Creelman, noting the town’s roads and community safety were high priority issues with residents during the election.

Councillor Fred Nix said the big question is whether they are getting enough policing service. ‘That’s the issue that council will have to confront. We have problems, traffic problems, and we had all the break-ins’ he said, referring to recent ones in Fieldstone subdivision.

‘This is considered a big problem for the residents in Mono,’ agreed Councillor Ralph Manktelow.

After further discussion, council unanimously approved setting up the task force, which will report to council in May.