

RESOLUTION NO. 18-788

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A COMMISSION TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Village of Silverton entered into a law enforcement contract with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for police protection services via Ordinance 14-3401, adopted unanimously on July 17, 2014, and, as a result, discontinued its police department on July 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Commissioners approved the contract on July 23, 2014, adopting Resolution # 26 unanimously; and

WHEREAS, the transition of police protection in 2014 from the Village of Silverton to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office was remarkably successful and has been lauded as a remarkable example of intergovernmental cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the model pursued by the Village of Silverton eliminating its own police department and contracting with the Sheriff for police protection was replicated by Arlington Heights and Lincoln Heights, and offered a policing model to other municipalities in Hamilton County continuing to recover from the 2008 recession; and

WHEREAS, the women and men serving as patrol deputies in the Village of Silverton are and have been dedicated professionals who have earned and continue to have the trust and confidence of the Mayor and Council of the Village of Silverton; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Silverton and representatives of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office negotiated with the Village of Silverton a new contract in 2017, increasing the levels of service the Village of Silverton received from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office to the mutual benefit of both parties; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Silverton Council approved the negotiated agreement for a second police protection contract starting April 1, 2018 and continuing until December 31, 2020 by adopting Ordinance 17- 3573, and forwarded the approved legislation to representatives of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for submission to the Board of Hamilton County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on or around December 20, 2017, the County Commissioners removed the Village of Silverton Council-approved contract from the Board of County Commissioners consent agenda and no representatives from the Board of County Commissioners or the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office notified the Village of Silverton about the Silverton-approved contract being pulled from the County Commissioner's consent agenda during the last Commissioner's meeting of 2017; and

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2017, having learned of the County Commissioners failure to adopt the Silverton-approved contract, Village Manager Tom Carroll provided the County Commissioners and Sheriff Jim Neil notice that the Village of Silverton was terminating the 2014 Agreement pursuant to Article VI of the 2014 Agreement approved on July 23, 2014 by the County Commissioners by Resolution # 26; and

WHEREAS, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has continued to serve Silverton throughout 2018 under Article VI of the 2014 Agreement, and the Village of Silverton appreciates the professional service of the deputies who have continued to provide police protection services throughout 2018. The Village has continued to pay for said services on a monthly basis pursuant to Article VI of our 2014 Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Village Manager has had numerous communications with Hamilton County officials throughout 2018 to reach an understanding of the challenges Hamilton County is facing and Hamilton County's proposed solutions and additional charges contemplated in a new contract; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Silverton is about to enter its 2019 budget preparation having not received adequate responses to numerous questions nor justifications for the additional fee for police protection services proposed by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Village of Silverton, that:

SECTION I. The Village Council hereby is unwilling to accept the current contract terms proposed by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for police protection services starting on January 1, 2019.

SECTION II. Silverton is in no way dissatisfied with the women and men who patrol Silverton under the 2014 Agreement between the Village and the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners. Indeed, Village Council hereby reiterates its wholehearted support for and appreciation of the deputies who patrol Silverton.

SECTION III. The Village Manager is hereby directed by Village Council to begin examinations of police protection service alternatives, including but not limited to working in cooperation with Sycamore and Symmes Township officials to explore the creation of a police district or other service model to ensure the protection of Silverton residents.

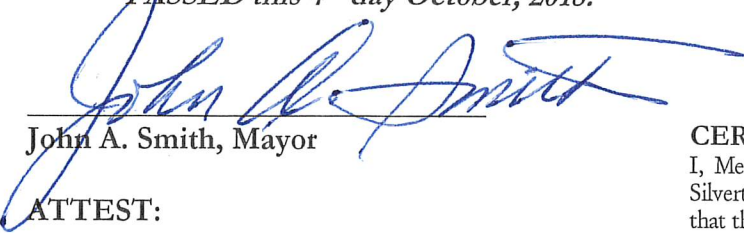
SECTION IV. The Village Council hereby establishes a blue-ribbon committee to consist of five residents, two of whom shall be from Village Council, to commence a study in cooperation with the Village Manager for policy alternatives available to the Village of Silverton for providing police protection services, including but not limited to the reestablishment of a Silverton Police Department.

SECTION V. The Village Council appreciates that Sheriff Neil is continuing to provide police protection services in Silverton under Article VI of the contract.

SECTION VI. Village Council recognizes that Hamilton County faces a serious budget shortfall in 2019, and that the County must act quickly to address service levels, secure police protection contracts with political jurisdictions, and increase revenue. Village Council is not opposed to paying more for services provided the fees and charges are fair, consistent, and justified. The Village Manager is hereby directed to work in cooperation with staff from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and Hamilton County administration to find an acceptable reimbursement formula with all deliberate speed.


SECTION VII. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED this 4th day October, 2018.




John A. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:



Thomas M. Carroll, Village Manager

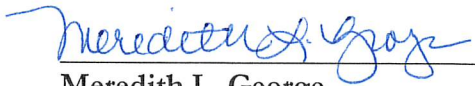
Approved as to form:



Bryan E. Pacheco, Village Solicitor

CERTIFICATION:

I, Meredith L. George, Clerk of Council of the Village of Silverton, County of Hamilton, State of Ohio; do hereby certify that there is no newspaper published in said municipality and that publication of the foregoing Resolution No. 18-788 has been duly made by posting true copies in two (2) places that are accessible by the public in said municipality, as determined by Council as follows: 1) Silverton Town Hall lobby area and Council Chambers foyer; and 2) Silverton's official website. Said posting was for a period of fifteen days commencing Oct 5, 2018.



Meredith L. George
Clerk of Council of Silverton, Ohio