

MEDIA RELEASE

April 23, 2025

Hanover Council Approves Architectural Firm for New Police Station

HANOVER, ON – At their April 22nd meeting, Hanover Council confirmed The Ventin Group Ltd (+VG Architects) as the architectural firm to complete the design for the new police station. In July 2024, council unanimously supported moving forward with the construction of a new police station including a three-year levy increase phase-in that began this year (2025) to meet the long-term loan repayment funding obligations for a future police station.

+VG Architects has identified their specialized expertise for police station construction and understanding of the town's needs, risks and importance of budget, adequate financial proposal and a wealth of experience with various projects. Their firm has relevant experience with police facilities including Wellington County OPP Detachment and St. Thomas Police Headquarters, as well as the Town of Hanover's recent Civic Theatre refurbishment.

"The hiring of +VG Architects is a positive and exciting step for our new police station project", stated Mayor Sue Paterson. "Council enthusiastically supports this project that when complete will provide Hanover Police Services with a facility that allows them to conduct their essential community safety work well into the future for our residents and community."

The new police station will be constructed on the 10th Avenue site of the former Hanover firehall, adjacent to the Civic Centre. The estimated cost of a new facility is approximately \$8.6 million. The approved levy increase phase in that began in 2025 is spread out over 3 years to minimize the impact and is as per the Town's Debt Management Policy. This approach provides the increased revenue from taxes to offset the long-term borrowing costs over the 3-year period.

Factors that have prompted a new police facility include but are not limited to service related realities such as increasing calls for service, longer holds of prisoners in on site cells, virtual bail court hearings held at the station, as well as facility deficiencies and space limitations.

+VG Architects will begin design of the new police station working with the appointed Police Station Working Group that includes council representatives, Hanover Police Services and Town staff members. Design and development of tender specifications will be undertaken throughout 2025. It is anticipated that construction will commence in early 2026 with 2027 the projected completion timeline.

Media Contact

Sherri Walden

Chief Administrative Officer

519.364.2780 x 1228

swalden@hanover.ca