

MINUTES
BRIDGEWATER BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
May 7th , 2020

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners held on Thursday, May 7th , 2020 virtually, by way of 'Zoom' commencing at 5:31 PM with Chair David Walker presiding. Those in attendance: Commissioners David Mitchell, Wayne Thorburne, Virginia Oickle, Faye Patey and Darren Lipsett.

Also present: Chief Scott Feener, Deputy Chief Danny MacPhee, CAO Tammy Crowder and Commission Recording Secretary, Patty Sleep

Regrets: Commissioner Jennifer McDonald

ORDER

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

New Business – CACP Representative

AGENDA

20-013 Moved by Commissioner Lipsett and seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to approve Agenda. MOTION CARRIED.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

COVID 19 Update

Chief Feener updated the Board on the internal changes surrounding the COVID 19 pandemic.

There are currently five platoons working four-12 hour shifts followed by six days off. Support staff are slowly returning to their regular schedules and had been working one week on, one week off. Senior Safety Coordinators are back to three days per week and By-law has returned to part time hours.

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The Chief and Deputy will re-asses staffing schedules, coverage, etc. following the long weekend in May.

Deputy Chief MacPhee reported 74 'covid related' calls for service the first month following the March 22 State of Emergency. There was also a significant influx of phone calls regarding clarification on recommendations, orders, etc.

The call volume plateaued after the first month and we are currently down to approximately eight calls per week. This number is expected to rise as parks open and restrictions loosen.

Although there were a large volume of complaints relating to COVID 19, BPS has laid only five charges for 'failure to quarantine'. This is largely due to complaints being 'unfounded' upon arrival, in other words, after the fact.

Nova Scotia Mass Shooting Q&A

Board Chair and Chief Feener added this topic to the Agenda for the Board to discuss and ask lingering questions. regards to questions.

Surplus patrol vehicles are stripped prior to going out to Tender. This type of car is available for the public to purchase new, so easily available.

An investigation of this event and the handling will be done and perhaps changes will be made once it is complete.

It was suggested, the Chief or Deputy raise the issue of the reselling of patrol cars as well as used light bars be discussed ta the provincial and national levels and the possibility of tighter restrictions.

MINUTES

20-014 Moved by Commissioner Oickle and seconded by Commissioner Patey to approve the Minutes of the March 5th regular meeting and the April 24th Special Meeting be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.

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CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

NSAPG/CAPG Update

doc # 20-015

Board Chair David Walker prepared a memo updating Board members on NSAPG and CAPG matters.

CAPG

- Webinar information is now available
- CAPG entertaining two nominations from Nova Scotia
- Nominations must go thru NSAPG for endorsement

NSAPG

- The association has adopted a virtual meeting format
- Spring workshop cancelled
- Fate of fall conference is unknown

Roadside Screening Devices - Cannabis

The Department of Justice have supplied Municipal Agencies with this device.

It is a compact, portable unit, much like the Intoxilyer and the test is performed roadside.

A demonstration will be done as a training opportunity, once the Commission is back to regular meetings held in the Boardroom.

SIRT – Summary Investigation Report

doc # 20-013

SIRT Investigation (file 190-040) is complete and summary of findings has been circulated.

According to SIRT, the investigation was very straight forward with no wrongdoing found by the members involved.

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UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update

The BPS 2020-21 Operational Budget has been passed by Town council with changes to the reserve account, as discussed in the April 24th, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

BPS March Report

doc # 20-014

The March monthly report was circulated to Board members.

- Isolation/Care packages were prepared and delivered by Chris Acomb and Carole Hipwell to 100 seniors in our community. Items were either donated or purchased with provincial grant money.
- Once Covid 19 restrictions are lifted, the Board suggested a 'thank you' gathering for members and staff.
- Question of how BPS is doing physically and mentally? Chief describes members as 'appearing to be ok'. Typically, tragic events tend to pull members together. Chief and Deputy remained working during the pandemic, so were able to circulate the correct information to staff as well as the public.

BPS April Monthly Report

doc # 20-016

Report circulated, no discussion.

CACP Representative from NSCPA

The NS Chiefs of Police Association are seeking representation at the CACP national level for a two-year term.

There is a financial impact on the local police board as the commitment involves three trips per year; two to Ottawa and one to the CACP Conference. The NSCPA are considering covering the cost for one trip to Ottawa.

- 20-015** Moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Oickle for Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners support a member from the NSCPA to sit on CACP National Board for a two-year term. MOTION CARRIED.

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NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th , 2020 at 5:30 pm in the David B. McGinnis Community Room.

Adjournment

20-016 Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Lipsett and seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Patty Sleep
Recording Secretary

David Walker
Board Chair