

MINUTES
BRIDGEWATER BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
January 4, 2024

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners held on Thursday, January 4th, 2024 at the Bridgewater Police Service, 45 Exhibition Drive, Bridgewater, NS, commencing at 5:30PM with Board Chair Darren Lipsett presiding.

Those in attendance: Commissioners Cheryl Fougere, , Diane Spencer, Mike Conklin and Andrew Tanner.

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

Regrets – Commissioner Fay Patey
Guest – Cst Scott Norwood

ORDER

Call to order at 5:36PM

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

New Business – Capital Budget

DECLARATION OF Conflict of Interest

AGENDA

24-001 Moved by Commissioner Tanner and seconded by Commissioner Spencer, the January Agenda be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

TRAINING

Traffic Position-Cst Scott Norwood

The Traffic Position was created in October of 2022 and Cst Scott Norwood was assigned to this position since that time.

The chief invited Scott to talk to the commission members and describe his new role and responsibilities. are.

Monthly reports are submitted which include Summary Offence Tickets, Warnings and motor vehicle accident information.

Scott's other responsibilities include monitoring traffic around the schools, responding to speeding and other motor vehicle complaint and assisting general patrol section, as required.

A tablet has recently been installed in the Tesla for license plate information retrieval, alleviating work from dispatch. The computer was the last operational piece needed to finally complete the electric vehicle.

This discussion concluded after a short Q&A regarding types of tickets issued, problem areas in Town as well as the engineer's responsibilities in terms of traffic control.

24-002 Moved by Commissioner Spencer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to approve the Minutes of the November 2nd, 2023 regular meeting as circulated.
MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

NSAPG

Board Chair Darren Lipsett attended the NSAPG Board meeting on November 8th held in Halifax.

Appears there is a level of frustration with both the Executive as well as Board representatives, in terms of the Board's direction. The discussion turned from DOJ's request for NSAPG having a website to a circulating By Laws and priorities as a starting point.

The CAPG Strategic Plan outlines eight points with only two currently active.

The next meeting will be held in spring and Board Chair Lipsett will be attending.

CAPG

CAPG hosted a round table discussion where various board were represented with four agenda topics discussed.

1. Resources for Police Leadership
2. Budget balancing
3. Collective Bargaining Process (doesn't apply to us)
4. CAPG Conference -

Issues with the handling of police complaints in Newfoundland (discussed at the CAPG Conference) was included in this agenda item. A policing review will be conducted to include the matters on hand. The government has hired five individuals and developed a process to properly handle all public complaints.

Further to this, Board Chair Lipsett advised of a document to be released on November 20th which will be shared, once received.

A brief discussion on mental health the impact it has in the police world.

Measures are in place to assist all BPS staff with their mental health. Programs such as health and wellness., follow-up procedures for serious calls, emergency mental health line for first responders as well as doctor assessments, if required.

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UNFINISHED/OLD Business

Strategic Plan Update

Chief Feener advised, an updated report on the Strategic Plan will be prepared for the February 2023 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Named Org Chat

doc # 24-001

An updated 'named' BPS Organizational Chart was circulated to the Board for information purposes.

A few items of note were discussed for clarity:

CRU – Community Response Unit: a team of four who work peak times on top of regular members working.

GIS – General Investigation Section

SCEU - Street Crime Enforcement Unit – integrated unit, provincially funded (\$100k)

SSRO – School Safety Resources Officer – provincially funded (\$100K)

LIO- Local Intelligence Officer – integrated unite, provincially funded (fully)

DRE – Drug Recognition Expert – provincially funded (fully)

BPS must maintain staff complement in order to receive funding for the provincially funded positions.

November Month End Report

doc # 24-002

No discussion

December Month End Report

doc # 24-003

Activities such as drinking and drugs at the schools was noted. PVEC has a population of 1000 students compared to 365 at the Bridgewater High School.

Commissioner Spencer informed the Board of the efforts in place to assist students and their families who are struggling. The number of families in crisis mode is increasing yearly.

Correspondence DOJ 100 Series Highways

doc # 24-004

Letter received from Department of Justice in mid-December in response to April 21st inquiry sent by the NS Chiefs of Police regarding enforcement clarification on the 100 series highways.

The termination of an MOU between CPRPS and the RCMP raised questions regarding roles and responsibilities of enforcement on the highways. Although it is the responsibility of the RCMP to patrol Nova Scotia's 100 series highways, according to the police Act and Public Highways Act, this does not extend to include the portion of the highway which fall into the boundaries of a municipality, city or town.

NS Chiefs have a scheduled meeting with Dept. of Justice this month to challenge this as it not logical. There are areas of Highway 103 near Exits 12 and 13 which technically run through the Town and out of RCMP jurisdiction, however, has caused no issues in the past.

The chief will keep the Board updated.

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2024/25 Capital Budget Items

The 2024/25 Capital Budget itemized list was due to finance in mid-December:

Replacement of one unmarked patrol vehicle	\$110,000
Replacement of K-9 vehicle (hybrid)	\$ 80,000
Buy Out Leased vehicle	\$ 18,000
New hand guns	\$ 60,000

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 1st, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

24-003 Motion to adjourn regular meeting by Commissioner Tanner and seconded b by Commissioner Fougere. Meeting adjourned.

Patty Sleep
Recording Secretary

Darren Lipsett
Board Chair