

STRATFORD POLICE SERVICES BOARD

A meeting of the Stratford Police Services Board was held on the 20th day of December, 2017 at 4:30 pm, Council Chamber, City Hall.

PRESENT: Dan Mathieson (Chair), Graham Buntin, Tim Doherty, Peter Hyde, Rosemary Tanner, Acting Chief Gerry Foster, Acting Deputy Chief Sam Theocharis, Costable Rob McMillan (Police Association) and Pat Shantz (Executive Assistant).

MINUTES

1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

Peter Hyde declared a pecuniary interest in the October and November 2017 accounts for the rental of 154 Downie Street as his wife owns the building.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19th, 2017

MOTION by Graham Bunting | Rosemary Tanner

That the minutes of the regular meeting of October 19th, 2017, be adopted as presented. Carried.

4. Hearings of Deputations and Presentations

MOTION BY Tim Doherty | Rosemary Tanner

That the meeting adjourn in order to hold a Public Meeting with respect to the increase in taxi fares and changes to the current Taxi By-law to include accessibility. Carried.

Brad Rickert of City Cabs was present at the meeting and provided an overview of the rate increases. The rate will be increased from \$9.00 to \$11.50 which includes HST.

The Executive Assistant reviewed the proposed changes/additions to the Taxi By-law in order to include accessibility.

There were no questions or comments. The Board will consider the proposed amendments later in the meeting.

The public meeting adjourned.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

5.1 Philadelphia Model

Acting Chief Foster advised the Board that the Service received training from Sonny Marriner regarding the Philadelphia Model on November 9th, 2017. The first review of sexual assault

cases took place the week of November 21st, by the Sexual Assault Review Team. Five eligible cases were reviewed that had taken place between January and October, 2017. He felt that the review went very well and the feedback received is valuable. He is looking forward to using the findings in future investigations regarding sexual assault.

Julie White from Optimism Place provided an update and thanked the Police Service for entering into a partnership with Optimism Place. She thanked Chief Bellai, Inspector Foster and Inspector Shaw as they were instrumental in ensuring that the Philadelphia Model was implemented in a timely manner.

In addition to the presentation to law enforcement personnel, presentations were also done with community service providers and the community as a whole, including survivors.

Julie advised the Board that the review was a meaningful and engaging process giving those involved the opportunity to gain an understanding of each other's work and experiences with sexual assault. It will continue to be a learning process as they continue with the project. As it is a pilot project, other communities will be looking for information on how the project works.

The next review of sexual assault cases will take place in April, 2018. Cases involving sexual violence will be reviewed semi-annually while cases involving domestic violence will be reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Upon requesting general written information that can be posted for the community, Julie advised that confidentiality is an issue. The Acting Chief suggested a general report indicating that a review had been completed. The Chair suggested that the review be included in the Service's month to month activity reports that are provided to the Board. Julie felt that it is a good idea to be accountable to the community and survivors. The Chair suggested that the review team come back with recommendations regarding transparent reporting.

The Acting Chief added that a key observation to date is the lack of a soft interview room for victims of sexual assault where they can feel comfortable while being interviewed. He advised that a room has been set up for this purpose.

A presentation was done to Anne McDonnell who was the Executive Director of Optimism Place for many years. The Chair presented Anne with a gift and thanked her for her commitment and dedication to the community. Acting Chief Foster also presented Anne with a plaque and thanked her on behalf of the Stratford Police Service.

The Chair congratulated Jasmine Clarke on her position as the new Executive Director and the Board looks forward to working with her.

6. Receipt of Monthly Statistic Reports – October and November 2017

Acting Deputy Chief Theocharis reviewed the Statistical Reports with the Board and advised that there were no major issues to report.

In comparing October/September 2017, there was a decrease in domestic violence occurrences and motor vehicle accidents. There was also an increase in break and enters due to items being stolen from sheds on residential properties.

In comparing November/October 2017, there was a decrease in domestic violence occurrences and an increase in the issuing of e-tickets.

In comparing November 2017 with November 2016, there is an increase in sick time due to several officers being off on long term sick leave.

The Service continues to be well-represented at meetings and events in the community.

MOTION by Peter Hyde | Tim Doherty

That the Monthly Statistic Reports for October and November, 2017 be received. Carried.

7. Approval of Monthly Accounts – October and November 2017

Acting Chief Foster reviewed the accounts with the Board and advised that as of October, there should be 83% of the budget used, however, currently 84% has been used. The accounts are slightly over budget due to an increase in overtime hours for officers filling in for those off on sick leave and two retirements. He also advised that Ontario grants amounting to \$95,000 are yet to be received. Overall, he had no concerns with the accounts.

Motion by Peter Hyde | Rosemary Tanner

That the monthly accounts for October and November 2017, with the exception of the accounts regarding the rent for 154 Downie Street, be approved for payment. Carried.

Motion by Graham Bunting | Tim Doherty

That the accounts for the rent for 154 Downie Street for October and November 2017, be approved for payment. Carried.

8. Police Association Business

The Chair welcomed Constable Rob McMillan, the new President of the Police Association to the meeting. There was no business to discuss, however, the Chair read a letter from the outgoing President, Mike Robinson. He also advised that the new Vice-President is Phil Coghlin.

9. Public Complaints

The Acting Chief informed the Board that he had been advised by the OIRPD that a complaint had been received in November. It was reviewed, deemed frivolous and therefore unsubstantiated. No further action was taken.

Two other prior complaints by the same individual had been assigned to the Waterloo Region Police Service for investigation by the OIRPD. Upon completion of their investigation, the allegations of misconduct were deemed unsubstantiated. Both files were forwarded to the Acting Chief and he agreed with their conclusions and advised the complainant by mail.

A prior complaint from 2016 that had been cleared as unsubstantiated by past Chief Bellai was sent back to OIRPD for a review of his decision. Acting Chief Foster was advised by the OIRPD that they reviewed the case and agreed with Chief Bellai's assessment.

10. Correspondence

There were no issues or questions regarding correspondence received from the Ministry or the OAPSB.

11. Consent Items

11.1 Taxi Licenses

The Acting Chief advised that applications had been received from Jeffrey Allen and Terry Crawford with respect to a taxi license.

Motion by Tim Doherty | Peter Hyde

That, on the recommendation of the Acting Chief, Jeffrey Allen and Terry Crawford be approved for a taxi license. Carried.

12. New Business

12.1 OAPSB Membership Renewal for 2018

MOTION by Peter Hyde | Tim Doherty

That the Stratford Police Services Board's membership with the OAPSB be renewed and that the fee of \$3,217.20 be paid for 2018. Carried.

12.2 Taxi Issues

The Chair advised that concerns had been received from members of the public regarding the number of taxi cabs available. Tony Rebello (City Cabs) advised that usually during the day or on a weekend evening there are 13-14 cabs on the road. During the weekday evenings, there are 8-9 cabs on the road. He advised that they have the cars, but are in need of drivers. Brad Rickert (Radio Cabs) added that it's an employment situation, not a lack of cars.

MOTION by Graham Bunting | Tim Doherty

That the fare increases as discussed and approved by the Board at the October 19th, 2017, meeting and discussed at the Public Meeting held on December 20th, 2017, are hereby confirmed. Carried.

MOTION by Tim Doherty | Rosemary Tanner

That pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the guidelines and regulations as discussed at the September 12th meeting and the Public Meeting held on December 20th, 2017, be included in the current Taxi By-law and that the By-law be updated by the Board's solicitor. Carried.

12.3 Organizational Chart

An up-dated Organizational Chart was provided to the Board in their agenda package. The Acting Chief advised that it had been prepared by the Niche Coordinator, Katie Uniac.

13. Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next meeting date is to be determined but may possibly be on Wednesday, January 17th at 4:30 pm.

14. Adjournment

Motion by Rosemary Tanner | Peter Hyde

That the meeting adjourn to an In Camera session to discuss personal matters about identifiable individuals, to reconvene in open session if required. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

"Dan Mathieson"

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Chair – Dan Mathieson