



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Police Advisory Board - Minutes
January 14, 2019, 3:30 p.m.
Sanford Council Chambers

Attendance:

P. Morton	Chair
J. Daniels	Vice Chair
M. Laycock	CAO
A. Henhoeffter	REMO Coordinator
G. Pineo	Citizen Representative
R. Meehan	Citizen Representative
C. Bushell	RCMP
S. Power	RCMP
J. Woodman	Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

CAO Laycock called the meeting to order at 3:39 p.m.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

CAO Laycock called for nominations for Chair.

George Pineo nominated Deputy Warden Paul Morton.

CAO Laycock called for second and third nominations.

There were no other nominations Deputy Warden Morton was declared chair.

Chair Morton called for nominations for Vice Chair.

Chair Morton nominated George Pineo as Vice Chair. He declined.

Chair Morton nominated Raymond Meehan as Vice Chair. He declined.

George Pineo nominated Councillor Jennifer Daniels.

Chair Morton called for second and third nominations.

There were no other nominations and Councillor Daniels was declared as Vice Chair.

3. Announcements

Chair Morton gave the standard fire evacuation announcements.

4. Approval of Agenda, including addition or deletions

MOVED and SECONDED to approve the agenda as circulated.

Motion Carried.

5. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2018

MOVED and SECONDED that the minutes of October 15, 2018 be approved as circulated noting any errors or omissions.

Motion Carried.

6. Presentation (s)

Chair Morton thanked Sergeant Power and congratulated him on his promotion and for all the work he has done and wished him best in his future endeavors.

a. RCMP Update

Staff Sergeant Bushell reported the School Safety Resource Officer remains on long term sick leave. He noted that the Street Crime Enforcement Officer Unit Member arrived and started his new role in December. He explained that Sergeant Power has been promoted to the "H" Division NCO I/C Employment Requirements Unit. He indicated this is a Staff Sergeant position in their Dartmouth headquarters, adding that he will be responsible for leading his team to strengthen the organizations accountability for internal administration through the modernization and application of RCMP personnel management processes. He noted that Sergeant Power will be responsible for ensuring the members maintain the qualifications, standards, expectations, responsibilities, and accountabilities required to continue to serve as a member. He indicated that Sergeant Power's replacement is being actively sought.

Staff Sergeant Bushell provided an update on the Legalization of Cannabis and suggested it has been unremarkable in terms of enforcement and there have been very few charges for illegal possession. He stated that impaired driving by cannabis in Hants County has attracted the attention of Annapolis Valley Traffic Services. He advised they already interdicted impaired drivers in Hants County and will be returning to conduct saturation operations in the Brooklyn area.

He reported on COMSTAT and noted there was a robbery at the Falmouth Quick Way, and there are no suspects or local leads. He noted there was suspicious fires at the same residence in the Upper Vaughan area and is still under investigation. He reported there was 19 break and enters in the county over the past quarter, and 5 cleared by charge as a result of a multi-jurisdictional investigation into a travelling criminal.

Chair Morton noted from the Statistics and Crime Rates report that Sexual Offences had increased and inquired if that was internet based. Sergeant Power offered they are not seeing an upward trend by the internet but suggested very often these offences involve technology.

CAO Laycock asked why there was such a significant increase in the total founded and SUI Occurrences. Staff Sergeant Bushell clarified this would just be calls for service not action taken.

Staff Sergeant Bushell reviewed the Impaired Driving Dashboard. CAO Laycock asked for an update of the changes made by the government for impaired driving. Staff Sergeant Bushell reported that the mandatory screening now in effect does not require members to have a reasonable suspicion to administer the roadside demand to someone.

Councillor Daniels asked where the deficiencies will be to pay for the cannabis road side testing kits that have been downloaded on the members. Staff Sergeant Bushell offered it is premature to determine what the true cost is going to be but assured normally if there is an overage in one area, they generally draw from an area they are spending less. He confirmed if one district goes over on budget another district will assist in supplementing and felt the Municipality's costs should remain the same until they determine otherwise. He indicated that he is pleased to report they are under budget this year.

Staff Sergeant Bushell reported in respect to consolidation they will be hosting a district meeting to garner member's thoughts. He offered once this is done, he intends to call a meeting with the transition committee to discuss expectations moving forward. He asked whether the Police Advisory Board has any expectations to share at this time.

CAO Laycock suggested there will be discussion between the RCMP, transition committee and the province. He offered it is complicated as Windsor has a different model and felt that a discussion needs to occur between the coordinator first to determine the best approach to move forward. Staff Sergeant Bushell cautioned he needs to be careful how he approaches the issue with his members to ensure everyone is being supported in the best way possible and ensure there is public safety. He noted there is some redundancy with the Town currently and the county, adding the two offices are operated independently however he is responsible for both. Sergeant Power expressed that it is important that they be heavily engaged in the early discussions of consolidation. CAO Laycock responded that he appreciated that comment and agreed they should have initial discussions soon.

i. Proposed Noise By-law

Sergeant Power reported that there was a proposal to implement a Noise By-Law in West Hants. He noted under the Nova Scotia Police Act the RCMP provide services to the citizens of West Hants as part of the regional police service agreement, adding one of the stipulations of that agreement is that they don't do enforcement of by-laws. He clarified that if there are concerns the RCMP through the Department of Justice can be asked to enforce a by-law. He noted that they are not opposed to enforcing the Noise By-law but felt it should be discussed by the board.

Councillor Daniels asked whether there was any supporting data from other municipalities to determine whether this is worthwhile or reflect future impact on the cost of policing services. Sergeant Power advised he was not aware of any data but

offered by-law or not members do field noise complaints on a regular basis but confirmed it doesn't change how they prioritize the calls they receive. He noted that he does not see the existence of a by-law changing how they prioritize calls for service or the number of calls they receive or cause undue hardship on the policing service.

MOVED and SECONDED that a recommendation be made to Council that the Police Advisory Board recommends to Council that, subject to the approval of the Noise By-law, a letter be written to the Minister of Justice indicating support for the Noise By-law and that RCMP enforcement will be in addition to the duties of the municipal By-law Enforcement Officer.

Motion Carried.

7. Miscellaneous/New Business

a. Traffic Speed Management on highway during accidents and construction
Councillor Daniels stated that she is concerned about people not reducing their speed on the highway during accidents and in construction zones and asked if there is an opportunity for the RCMP to issue tickets to get the word out to slow down. Staff Sergeant Bushell offered there is various ways to get the message out adding there has been some success using social media, he indicated he is willing to do a story with the news paper as we approach the construction season. He agreed that it is beneficial for them to saturate the area and give out tickets but cautioned it is difficult to do it during emergencies as often members are working on the scene or responding to other calls.

The board asked the RCMP to present their budget at the next meeting.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

10. Adjournment

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn at 4:50 p.m.

Motion Carried.