

KENTVILLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED
November 27/07

A meeting of the Kentville Board of Police Commissioners was held on September 25th, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT Commissioners Sweet, Cooper, Kehoe, King, CAO Boyd, Chief Mander and Mayor Corkum.

ABSENT Commissioner Aucoin, Commissioner Hale and Commissioner Bolland.

CALL TO ORDER Chairperson Kehoe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **Motion by Commissioner Cooper to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner King. Agenda approved with an addition under Correspondence (11c), email from Mayor Corkum requested by Chief Mander.**

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING **Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 21, 2007 made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Sweet.**

MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR CORKUM Mayor Corkum addressed the Board mentioning that a year ago he came to the Board with concerns about Centre Sq. and is pleased about how things were handled and taken care of. Mayor Corkum thanked Commissioner Hale for his valuable contribution and time put into the Board and very much appreciates his efforts. Council has asked Mayor Corkum as their representative to bring forward two concerns.

The first concern is whether the Community Policing Officer could have more contact with the business community. Would some of the downtown businesses know who our Community Policing Officer is? The second and more serious concern or question is an ongoing one of why isn't there more police foot patrols downtown? From time to time there seems to be less visibility. Mayor Corkum asked if the time spent on foot patrols placed on the information sheets are accurate.

Chief Mander responded that there is a daily activity sheet that the members do. The summer is difficult for patrols due to vacations and our call outs tend to go up in the summer time. This summer was particularly

difficult as we were short a member and our Crime Prevention Officer is off on maternity leave. We have just hired an individual who just graduated from the Academy and did his OJT with us. He has been placed on a shift for the first few weeks working Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday with the first 3 hours of each shift being in Centre Sq. Our Crime Prevention Officer does spend the majority of her time in the schools and it has been the Chief's experience that the business needs are determined by what the crime of the day is. Generally, they do not need a lot of services from us. It is a surprise that they are asking for services as we have asked them before and they haven't said anything. We have had fraud seminars with low attendance. However, one of our focuses is on business and Chief Mander will make sure that this is brought up again. Foot patrol is an ongoing with issue with him as well. It is felt that there is more police visibility here than in other towns. Chief Mander advised that foot patrols and our attention to the community is what makes us unique. It's a balance between the emergency calls and foot patrols. Some discussion ensued.

KPS AUDIT

Chief Mander advised that this is the response to the audit as to what the department is doing in response to some of the issues identified. There is going to be ViCLAS training in New Minas for our members in a month or so.

PARKING

Chief Mander advised that the issues here were the number of tickets issued and the reporting mechanism. Concerns had been expressed through the Parking Committee. Chief Mander will attach the same report that the Parking Committee gets with regard to stats. The current report only shows part of September as the month is not completed yet so there are more tickets than what shows. The number of tickets stepped up in May, June, July and August. This is probably a better way to manage it as we have a representative on the Parking Committee and they are giving advice to the police service. The citizens report a concern to the Parking Committee and Cpl. Darryl Brown relates this to Chief Mander and then they meet with Commissionaire Robichaud. There are some other issues that need to be explored, one being parking meters and another gated parking lots where you pay on the way out. Also the "frequent fliers" will now have their vehicles towed. Commissionaire Robichaud has a list and once there are 10-15 tickets, the vehicle is towed. One was towed last week. The Parking Committee is monitoring this on a weekly basis and the Commission will get a report at each meeting.

Mayor Corkum advised that he has noted various vehicles blocking traffic loading and unloading and not using the new designated loading zone. Some of them were unaware of this zone but were very receptive upon

learning of it. Mayor Corkum suggested that if the officers or the Commissionaire see these loading/unloading vehicles blocking traffic, that they be informed of the designated area. The shifts have been advised that they can do parking enforcement too if they see violations. Commissioner Cooper advised that the Centre Square side of the street is being done but not the outside so this is where people are parking. This is where a lot of the complaints are coming from. Commissioner Cooper also felt part of the community based policing model is for the officers to be more visible downtown, speaking to the merchants, etc.

MATERNITY LEAVE POLICY

Chairperson Kehoe advised that the policy with the 100% top off was taken to Council but it was not well received and questioned if we had the ability to create the policy as it would impact the budget. We are supposed to not do anything that impacts the budget without prior approval. We do, however, have the figures in the budget for 2007/2008. They requested we re-visit the policy but the member currently receiving the benefits would continue to do so. Some discussion ensued, i.e. possibly go through the upcoming bargaining session. It was noted that we were tasked by the Human Rights Commission to do up a policy because of a previous incident. The issue with the policy that Council has is the 100% top up. We did up the policy because a member was about to go on maternity leave and we didn't want to get slapped twice for the same issue. Chief Mander advised that the reason we adopted the policy part of it was to maintain the management rights as opposed to having the union dictate what the rights of the policy are. Chief Mander feels that the union will be asking for the 100% top up as that is what most of the other police agencies are getting. This would be 35% as the government pays 65%. We have a grandfather clause with a female member currently taking advantage of the policy but what happens if a male member comes to the Chief tomorrow?

Motion by Commissioner Cooper, seconded by Commissioner King, that it be referred back to Council to come up with a top up that they feel is reasonable and in the interim, there will be no further top up provisions for future employees wishing to take advantage of it.

Mayor Corkum advised that that Council is concerned that this policy would have an impact on all the employees throughout the Town and not just for the gal having the baby but the husband too. There is a government policy of 12 months maternity leave for a family to take whether it is taken by the male or the female that gives 65% up to a certain limit. Chief Mander advised another reason for the policy with the 100% top up is to attract female officers. It is noted that there are other parts to

the policy including light duty.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS TO COUNCIL Chief Mander advised that the reports are attached for June, summer of 2007.

CHIEF'S REPORT Refer to above Reports to Council.

FINANCIAL REPORT PROJECTIONS Commissioner King noted that overtime is at 88% & 60%. Chief Mander advised that there are two things happening here. We are going to be over budget but this is based on Apple Blossom (our major cost), summer and Annapolis Royal. Annapolis Royal got into some difficulty this summer and asked us to provide policing on a regular basis. They were advised they would have to pay at our rates of pay plus costs of 10%. We have been policing since July with the members going there on overtime on their days off. We have been billing Annapolis Royal to the tune of roughly \$20,000 - \$25,000. That will go into the other side of the ledger but the expense is going to come out of here which is why you see our overtime out of whack. We will be able to account for it to Council saying we will be over budget but we are getting this revenue for it. The revenue doesn't show up in the police budget but in the general coffers. If a member gets injured, they would have to pay for it. We are currently working on a longer term agreement with them which is a fee for service too. Most of the time our police transports are not taken there, the member takes his own personal vehicle and bills for mileage. In the event a member didn't have a vehicle, the Crime Prevention vehicle is taken and Annapolis Royal billed for mileage. The document provided by the Finance Department does not show the true picture and it is requested that a better document be provided in future by the Town. Our insurance company and Annapolis Royal's are aware of what is taking place. Commissioner King noted 94% of the Crime Prevention budget has been expended & wondered if we can get by on the rest. Chief Mander advised yes, that part of the expense was incurred during Police Week in May as well as some things were spent up front for the year.

Motion by Commissioner King to receive the Financial Report, seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Bob Eyre advised that Annapolis Royal should soon be up to strength, that they had just hired someone.

CONTRACT
NEGOTIATIONS

Chief Mander advised that the Union has met with their negotiator, Dave Fisher and they are in the process of getting together their list of priorities and expectations for negotiations. Chief Mander spoke to the union president, George Dunfee, and we expect to be able to sit down with them for them to give us their presentation, the latter part of October. Our negotiation team is Chief Mander, Chairperson Kehoe, CAO Boyd, Commissioner Cooper and Councilor Hill. Chairperson Kehoe and Chief Mander suggested the week of October 22nd to meet for information purposes. The negotiating team is to meet prior to this with Chief Mander and CAO Boyd to coordinate same. It starts off with each side providing their proposal and the items being knocked off one by one. The negotiating committee reports to Council, the Commission does not get involved. Some discussion ensued.

KPS WEB SITE

Chief Mander advised that www.kentvillepolice.ca is our new website. There is a section for the commissioner members, please advise Chief Mander if you want anything changed. All the minutes are posted there as well. Also note that the email addresses have changed accordingly.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from Commissioner Hale. It is town policy that the citizen appointees can hold 2 consecutive 2 year terms and then we prefer they take some time off which allows for turnover. There is some debate at Council as to whether this is a good move or bad. Mr. Hale served 4 years so will take some time off and is welcome to re apply for police or other commission after one year. If no other applications are received a former member can come back. The position has been advertised and a decision should be made by Council at their November meeting. So at the next meeting, hopefully we shall a replacement for Mr. Hale.

There is another issue, that being David Aucoin has moved to Halifax so his term is automatically up so we will need another appointment. CAO Boyd to advise Carol to confirm he has moved and if so we will need two appointments instead of one. CAO Boyd noted that Mr. Sweet's term is up in November as the Provincial appointee and wonders if he is staying or not. Chief Mander advised that the last time he was speaking to the Department of Justice, they were not interested in making any changes.

A letter was received from Annapolis Royal Police which has been circulated. The bottom line is that they would like us to discuss with them the possibility of taking over policing in Annapolis Royal. Chief Mander advised there would be certain protocols that have to be undertaken, a policing review and other things. He feels it would be worthwhile to go

through and see what it might look like in the end because he is hearing through the grapevine that other communities would be interested once there is extended service down there. The Province is currently undertaking a policing review in the Province as the RCMP contract is up in 2012. Some discussion ensued. Chairperson Kehoe noted that formal protocols have to be met and a legal opinion is needed as well as guidance from Council. A cost benefit analysis would need to be done; a careful study of costs and liabilities. Mayor Corkum stated that unless there was some financial benefit to the Town of Kentville, he doesn't see any reason to police Annapolis Royal. Chief Mander advised that the Department of Justice would get involved from the beginning and manage the whole process. Chairperson Kehoe tasked the Chief through the Solicitor to determine what the protocol is to handle the matter and turn it over to Council for debate and deliberation. If they see fit to send it back to us, then so be it. Commissioner King stated he was against the issue, that it would detract from our current policing service.

DOG COMPLAINT Chief Mander stated he wanted to get this on the agenda, that he had received an email from Mayor Corkum who had received a dog complaint from a citizen. The matter was looked into as well as all her complaints and it appears to be quite likely that charges will be laid in this matter. There is a huge history of ongoing problems between the two parties. The email will be forwarded to all members. E-mail correspondence should be sent to all members of the commission.

IN CAMERA The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm for an In Camera session on a personnel matter.

ADJOURNMENT 9:15PM

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY