

BRANTFORD POLICE SERVICES BOARD
MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014 – 2:00 P.M.
BOARD ROOM

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Cheryl Antoski, Chair
Vice Chair Todd Glaves
Jean Anderson
Councillor Vince Bucci
Mayor Chris Friel

ALSO PRESENT: Chief W. Geoff Nelson
Deputy Chief Rob Dinner
Margaret Eves, Executive Assistant

Moved by Jean Anderson
Seconded by Councillor Vince Bucci

THAT the motions made at the in-camera session be ratified.

CARRIED

1. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

2. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. MINUTES

Moved by Vince Bucci
Seconded by Jean Anderson

THAT the minutes of the meetings held June 17, 2014, and September 8, 2014, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. REPORTS

5.1 Current Issues Update – Chief W. Geoff Nelson

Chief Nelson advised that he and Deputy Chief Dinner had attended the OACP and CACP annual conferences and found them both to be informative. He added that he had attended Superior Court at the swearing in of Justice of the Peace Audrey Greene Summers. He indicated that the alarm reduction strategy draft bylaw was being sent to alarm companies for comment, and then will be brought to the Board and to the community for consultation. He advised that Hamilton Police Service had laid various criminal charges against Constable Ryan Grant. As a result he has been suspended with pay in accordance with the Police Services Act. He advised an internal investigation was ongoing. He further reported that the filming by CHCH-TV of Cst. Grant's release included what was reported to be off-duty police officers impeding the film crew. Investigation has revealed that they were not members of the Brantford Police Service.

Deputy Chief Dinner reported on the badging ceremony for the members of the canine unit and outlined the successes of the unit. He also informed the Board that the Service would be hosting two Inspectors of the Hong Kong Police in November.

5.2 Expanded Deployment of the Conducted Energy Weapon (Taser)

Chief Nelson provided the results of a two-month community consultation process on the expanded deployment of Tasers to front-line officers. He reported that the consultation included an on-line information and education presentation and survey, two public forums hosted by the Service, and a forum with local health and social services professionals. Although the information sessions were poorly attended, there were 347 visits to the on-line information, with 64 completing the survey. Of those, 69% were supportive of expanded use of Tasers.

Chief Nelson provided a recommendation to issue front-line officers with Tasers, as well as providing special attention to subject aftercare during initial and annual recertification Taser training. He further recommended that the Service identify crisis intervention and/or de-escalation training as a mandatory component of annual training for all officers.

Chief Nelson indicated it will take at least two years to accommodate the training and fiscal needs.

Moved by Jean Anderson
Seconded by Vince Bucci

THAT Board Policy #06-02 (Use of Force) be amended to authorize the Chief of Police to expand the deployment of the conducted energy weapon to include all qualified frontline response police officers

AND FURTHER that the Brantford Police Service include, as part of their initial and annual recertification training, a review of Service policy related to the Conducted Energy Weapon, with special attention to subject aftercare

AND FURTHER that the Brantford Police Service identify crisis intervention and/or de-escalation training as a mandatory component of annual training for all officers.

CARRIED

5.3 Statistical Reports

5.3.1 *Monthly Statistical Reports*

The June and July Monthly Statistical Reports were received. Highlights of interest were provided by Deputy Chief Dinner.

Councillor Vince Bucci left the meeting at 2:25 p.m. due to a prior commitment.

5.3.2 *2013 Uniform Crime Reporting Survey Results*

A memorandum, dated July 23, 2014, was received from Chief G. Nelson providing an assessment of the 2013 UCR survey. He reported that the UCR survey examines trends in the volume and seriousness of police-reported crime. He noted that Brantford is included in a census metropolitan area (CMA) level comprised of the Brantford Police Service, Brant County OPP and Six Nations Police Force.

Chief Nelson reported that the 201 total crime severity index (CSI) for Brantford CMA is 12.1% lower than in 2012, but ranked 6th of 33 CMAs. The CSI for violent crime increased 10.7% over 2012, while the CSI for non-violent crime decreased by -17.1%. He added that Brantford CMA is the highest in auto thefts and ranked 4th for break and enters. There was dialogue on crime trends and root causes which will be further discussed at the Safe Brantford crisis table.

5.4 Budget

5.4.1 *Second Quarter Budget Report*

Chief Nelson reviewed the second quarter budget report, indicating that 50.5% of the 2014 Operating budget had been spent.

5.4.2 Monthly Budget Reports – July and August 2014

The July and August Monthly Budget Reports were received. There were no areas of concern.

5.5 Second Quarter Police Auction Proceeds Trust Fund Account

This report was received, noting a balance of \$31,929.80 at June 30, 2014.

5.6 Second Quarter Complaints Against Police Report

Chief Nelson reviewed this report, prepared by A/Inspector Pancoe, noting three new complaints. He reported that one had been over the time limit, one was screened out and the remaining had been withdrawn.

5.7 Request for Adult School Crossing Guard – Russell Reid School

A request was received from the Principal of Russell Reid School for the placement of an Adult School Crossing Guard at the front of the school on Cambridge Drive due to safety concerns. Sergeant G. Lee supported the need for a study and indicated a temporary guard will be placed at the location pending the results of the warrant study.

Moved by Jean Anderson
Seconded by Vice Chair Todd Graves

THAT the City Engineer be requested to conduct an adult school crossing guard warrant study on Cambridge Drive in front of Russell Reid School.

CARRIED

5.8 Request for Support – Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal

A letter dated August 12, 2014, was received from Special Constable Edo van Belkom asking the Board to consider sending a letter to the Chancellery of Honours asking for a change in the eligibility criteria for the Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal so as to include Special Constables employed by municipal police agencies in Ontario. Currently, only Special Constables employed by the Ontario Provincial Police are eligible.

Moved by Todd Graves
Seconded by Jean Anderson

THAT a letter be sent to the Chancellery of Honours asking for a change in the eligibility criteria for the Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal to allow Special Constables working for municipal police services in Ontario to be eligible for this award.

CARRIED

5.9 Annual Report – Park Patrol Unit

Deputy Chief Dinner highlighted points of this report, prepared by Park Patroller Thomas Jeffery, and commented on the fine job the Summer Patrol Patrollers had done this year.

5.10 Increase in Basic Constable Training Fees at Ontario Police Co

Information was received from the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards that the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services had increased the Basic Constable Training fees at the Ontario Police College by 47.5%, which are paid by each recruit. Concern was expressed regarding the size of the increase with little advance warning, and the lack of consultation on their decision.

Moved by Vice Chair Todd Glaves
Seconded by Jean Anderson

THAT a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to express the Board's concern at the recent 47.5% increase in the Basic Constable Training fees at the Ontario Police College.

CARRIED

5.11 2013 Annual Report of the Brantford Police Service

This report was received.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next public meeting of the Brantford Police Services Board will be held on October 16, 2014, at 1:00 p.m.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Extension of Towing Contract

A report was received from Inspector Kent Pottruff recommending that the Board extend the current three-year agreement with Ken's with its existing terms and rates for three years. Ken's Towing had been approached and agreed with the extension.

Moved by Mayor Chris Friel
Seconded by Jean Anderson

THAT the agreement with Ken's Towing for tow services be extended with its existing terms and rates for a further term of three years, to expire November 14, 2017 at 23:59 hours.

CARRIED

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mayor Chris Friel

THAT the meeting be adjourned. (2:45 p.m.)

CARRIED

The minutes of this meeting were adopted this 16th day of October, 2014.

Cheryl Antoski, Chair

Margaret Eves, Executive Assistant