

BRANTFORD POLICE SERVICES BOARD
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016
1:00 P.M., BOARD ROOM

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Deb Cockerill
Councillor David Neumann
Brendan Ryan

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

REGRETS: Mayor Chris Friel

Moved by Deb Cockerill
Seconded by Councillor David Neumann

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

CARRIED

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
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There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

2. ELECTIONS

2.1 Chair

Mrs. Eves called took the Chair and called for nominations for the office of Chair. Deb Cockerill nominated Brendan Ryan, who accepted the nomination. The nominations were closed and Brendan Ryan was acclaimed Chair of the Brantford Police Services Board for 2016.

2.2 Vice Chair

Mrs. Eves called for nominations for the office of Vice Chair. Brendan Ryan nominated Deb Cockerill, who accepted the nomination. The nominations were closed and Deb Cockerill was acclaimed Vice Chair of the Brantford Police Services Board for 2016.

Mr. Ryan assumed the Chair.

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

There were no delegations or presentations.

4. MINUTES

Moved by Councillor David Neumann
Seconded by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT the minutes of November 19, 2015, be adopted.

CARRIED

5. REPORTS

5.1 Taxi Bylaw – Security Cameras

Constable Michael Aasla, Licensing Officer, attended and presented his report, which contained recommendations on the installation of video recording equipment in taxicabs within the City of Brantford. His report had resulted from a request from Bell City Cabs to consider allowing them to install dash-mounted security cameras to improve the safety of the public and their drivers.

After investigating the request and consulting with other jurisdictions and cab companies, Cst. Aasla recommended the Board amend the Taxi Bylaw to allow, on a voluntary basis, the installation of security cameras, with certain requirements.

Moved by Councillor David Neumann
Seconded by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT the Brantford Police Services Board supports the recommendation of staff to allow the installation of video equipment in taxicabs, on a voluntary basis, and that Taxi Bylaw 99-1 be amended to include the following addition to paragraph 10:

(b) Any owner licensed under this Bylaw may install in a taxicab a security camera system. The owner must ensure that the security camera system shall:

- (i) be positioned in the front or rear passenger area of the vehicle;*
- (ii) not provide wireless access to recorded images stored or produced by the system;*

- (iii) *be sturdy and secured with tamper-proof hardware to prevent unauthorized access to images or tampering with the system power source, wiring, wire connections and components;*
- (iv) *retain an image for a minimum of seven days after being recorded;*
- (v) *only allow access to the information recorded by the system to police or the owner of the taxicab company;*
- (vi) *affix to the interior and exterior of the taxicab a decal or sign that provides notice to the public that the security system is contained within the taxicab, and that the notice is clearly visible.*

The owner or driver of a taxicab equipped with a security camera system shall not operate such taxicab unless the system is in proper working order within the vehicle while on duty. Failure to ensure the camera is in good working order would place the vehicle out-of-service at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

CARRIED

The proposed Bylaw wording changes are to be sent to all local taxi companies for their comment before the Taxi Bylaw is amended at the next Board meeting.

Cst. Aasla was thanked for his work on the matter and was excused from the meeting.

5.2 Issues Update – Chief W.G. Nelson and Deputy Chief R. Dinner

Chief Nelson stated Inspector Sumsion had challenged all platoons to complete one community activity which focused on the holiday sentiment of giving, caring and empathy. Chief Nelson was proud to relay that many staff members volunteered at the Food Bank, a toy drive, visited children at Nova Vita with gifts, delivered Christmas Baskets and participated in serving Christmas lunches to students.

Chief Nelson advised that the annual Citizens' Police Academy would run March 30 to May 18, and invited Board members to participate.

He spoke about four new staff awards which had recently been developed. These awards will be presented at an Awards Night event, hosted by the Brantford Police Association, on February 25, 2016, and invited Board members to attend.

Deputy Chief Dinner provided his verbal report on a meeting held December 11 between senior staff and Wilfrid Laurier University representatives, at which time an open dialogue was held about their security initiatives and campus police.

5.3 Monthly Statistical Report

Deputy Chief Dinner highlighted points of interest in the October 2015 report, adding that he hoped to have the November, December and semi-annual statistical analysis report available at the next Board meeting.

5.4 Budget Report

Chief Nelson presented the December 2015 budget report, which indicated 3.06% or \$916,820 remained unspent. Chief Nelson indicated this figure was not accurate as all accounts had not yet been closed.

5.5 Fourth Quarter Auctions Proceeds Account Report

This report was received, which indicated the account balance at year end was \$23,698.93.

5.6 Fourth Quarter Complaints Report

This report was received, which indicated eight new complaints had been received over the last quarter of 2015, four of which were public complaints and four complaints being instigated by the Chief of Police.

5.7 Ontario Association of Police Services Boards - Memberships

5.7.1 *Ontario Association of Police Services Boards*

Moved by Councillor David Neumann
Seconded by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT the Brantford Police Services Board renews their membership with the Ontario Association of Police Services Board at a cost of \$5,237.55.

CARRIED

5.7.2 *Ontario Association of Police Services Boards - Zone 4*

Moved by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill
Seconded by Councillor David Neumann

THAT the Brantford Police Services Board renews their membership with the Ontario Association of Police Services Board – Zone 4 at a cost of \$50.00.

CARRIED

5.8 High School Resource Officer Program – Request for Full-time Officer

A letter was received from Brian Quistberg, Principal of Tollgate Technological Skills Centre, in which he requested consideration be given to dedicating one officer to Tollgate Tech to allow the police officer to fulfill the initial purpose of the program, which was to build a bridge between young people and the police by getting involved in the school community. Currently, each High School Resource Officer is assigned to three high schools and Mr. Quistberg pointed out that the officer appears to be running between schools and is only able to put out fires.

The Board asked that a letter of response be provided to Mr. Quistberg, confirming the Board's support and commitment to this valuable program, and explaining that the program has been affected by ongoing manpower demands and financial constraints. Chief Nelson was asked to consider Mr. Quistberg's request when redeployment of manpower planning takes place.

5.9 Adult School Crossing Guard Program

5.9.1 *Agnes Hodge School - Clench Avenue at Tuxedo Avenue*

Deputy Chief Dinner presented a report, which indicated that as a result of a request by the Home and School Association for the placement of an Adult School Crossing Guard, staff conducted student counts and recommend a warrant study be completed.

Moved by Councillor David Neumann
Seconded by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT City Engineering staff be requested to conduct an Adult School Crossing Guard warrant study at the intersection of Clench Avenue at Tuxedo Avenue.

CARRIED

5.9.2 *Walter Gretzky Elementary School – Gillespie Drive*

Deputy Chief Dinner also reviewed a report, which indicated that safety concerns had been received from the Principal of Walter Gretzky Elementary School and requested a study be done. After reviewing the area, staff recommended the Board have a warrant study be completed.

Moved by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill
Seconded by Councillor David Neumann

THAT City Engineering staff be requested to conduct an Adult School Crossing Guard warrant study on Gillespie Drive.

CARRIED

5.9.3 Jean Vanier School – Ninth Avenue

Deputy Chief Dinner reviewed his report which indicated that a temporary crossing guard had been placed on Ninth Avenue near Jean Vanier School in October 2014 due to safety concerns. The area had been reviewed by staff and confirmed the ongoing need for a full-time guard. A recommendation was received to classify the guard as full time.

Moved by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill
Seconded by Councillor David Neumann

THAT the Adult School Crossing Guard currently located on Ninth Avenue be classified as a full-time position.

CARRIED

6. MEETING DATES

Moved by Councillor David Neumann
Seconded by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT the following 2016 schedule of meeting dates for the Brantford Police Services be approved:

February 18
March 17
April 21
May 19
June 16
September 15
October 20
November 17

AND that the in-camera sessions be held at 12:00 noon, and the public sessions at 1:00 p.m. in the board room at the Brantford Police Station, 344 Elgin Street, Brantford.

CARRIED

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Request for Funds – Brant Area Cub Scouts

A request was received from the Brant Area Cub Scouts for a donation toward the Kub Kar Rally, to be held February 20, 2016, in Brantford.

Moved by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill
Seconded by Councillor David Neumann

THAT the Brantford Police Services Board approves the transfer of \$150.00 from the Police Services Board Auction Proceeds Trust Fund to the Police Services Board Special Projects Account (150500) and that this amount be used to financially support the Brant Area Cub Scouts' *Kub Kar Rally*.

CARRIED

7.2 Plaque Honouring the late Jean Anderson

A proof for the plaque honouring the late Jean Anderson was reviewed and revised.

7.3 Community Watch Program – Laurier Brantford

Councillor Neumann stated he attended a meeting with Laurier Brantford Student Affairs personnel and was pleased to report that a Community Watch Program was being developed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Chair Deb Cockerill

THAT the meeting be adjourned. (2:30 p.m.)

CARRIED

The minutes of this meeting were adopted this 18th day of February 2016.

T. Brendan Ryan, Chair

Margaret Eves, Executive Assistant