

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

January 18, 2010

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell Walker, Chair
Commissioner Gloria McCluskey, Vice Chair
Commissioner Bill Karsten
Commissioner James Perrin
Commissioner Doug MacDonald
Commissioner Earl Gosse
Commissioner Kenneth Hill

STAFF: Deputy Chief Tony Burbridge, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP
Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. in the Meisner Room, Police Headquarters.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - December 14, 2009

MOVED BY Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Karsten, that the minutes of December 14, 2009 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- 7.2 HRP Reports - Additional Report re: Traffic Update
- 7.3 Public Safety Newsletter - Superintendent Don Spicer
- 8.1 Secretariate - Commissioner Walker
- 8.2 Taxi Licences and Roof Lights - Commissioner Walker
- 8.3 Information Item - Police Resources in Canada - Deputy Chief Burbridge
- 8.4 Information Item 1: Eastern Passage Policing - Needs Analysis -
Correspondence from Superintendent Beaton dated January 6, 2010

MOVED BY Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Karsten, that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Correspondence - None

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Presentations - None

7. REPORTS

7.1 RCMP Reports

C The December 2009 RCMP reports were before the Board. As there were no questions at this time, the RCMP reports were tabled as presented.

Commissioner McCluskey commended the RCMP for catching so many impaired drivers during the weekend prior.

7.2 HRP Reports

C The December 2009 HRP reports were before the Board.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised that the UN Peacekeeping Assignment number should be three rather than five.

The HRP reports were tabled as submitted.

7.3 Public Safety Update - Superintendent Spicer

C The January 2010 Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Vol. 2 Issue 1 was submitted.

Superintendent Spicer indicated that there were no new updates further than what was included in the January 2010 newsletter. In response to questions from the Board, he advised that meetings with Community Services were ongoing and that all members of Council were being sent the monthly newsletter electronically.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Secretariate - Commissioner Walker

The Chair indicated that \$100,000 had been set aside by the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer's office for a Board of Police Commissioners budget which would be used to fund a secretariate position for the Board as well as administration fees and conferences. He requested the Board's endorsement.

MOVED BY Commissioner Karsten, seconded by Commissioner McCluskey, that the Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed \$100,000 Board of Police Commissioners budget in principle and authorize the Chair to work with the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer on a go forward basis to ensure that it is included in the 2010/2011 operational budget.

Deputy Chief Burbridge indicated that the Board's current annual budget was approximately between \$11,000 and \$12,000. He stated that the proposed \$100,000 would not be an unrealistic number if the Board had its own dedicated resource.

The Chair noted that the role of other Police Board secretariates across Canada was still being researched by Ms. Marion Currie, Corporate Planning and Ms. Terry Roane, however, a motion was presently required so that the funding could be included in the upcoming budget deliberations.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 Taxi Licences and Roof Lights - Commissioner Walker

The Chair indicated that this matter had been brought to his attention by several drivers recently as they were concerned that no new licences or roof lights had been granted pending the upcoming report to Council. He requested an update on this matter.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised that he would follow up with Superintendent Moore and provide a response to Board members.

The Chair noted that he would like this freeze on licences and roof lights lifted.

8.3 Information Item - Police Resources in Canada - Deputy Chief Burbridge

- C A report titled Police Resources in Canada was submitted.
- C A Police Resources in Canada spreadsheet was submitted.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised that he had been using the Police Resources in Canada report for 30 years; noting that the 2009 edition was quite impressive. He stated that he had created a spreadsheet based on the information in the report and that it should be celebrated that Halifax was listed as number 12 in Canada. Deputy Chief Burbridge stated that a police service's performance could be tracked from documents such as this; indicating that 20 areas in Canada had a higher crime rate than Halifax and that crime in HRM had actually gone down by approximately 30% since 2004. He advised that this was a public document and was available on the Statistics Canada website. Deputy Chief Burbridge also indicated that Statistics Canada used to treat all crimes equally for their statistical purposes, however, last year they had come up with a scoring system based on types of crime.

Superintendent Beaton advised that the report also included the first year that the RCMP and HRP had combined their statistics which more accurately reflected the overall crime rate in HRM.

**8.4 Information Item 1: Eastern Passage Policing - Needs Analysis -
Correspondence from Superintendent Beaton dated January 6, 2010**

- C Correspondence dated January 6, 2010 from Superintendent Beaton was before the Board.

Superintendent Beaton indicated that he expected the needs analysis for Eastern Passage to take one more month to complete and that it was capable of being done within the regular work pool. He noted that key community stakeholders, including Councillor Barkhouse, local schools and businesses, would be contacted.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for February 8, 2010.

The proposed 2010 meeting schedule was accepted as amended as the April meeting would take place on April 19, 2010 and the August meeting on August 16, 2010. It was noted that summer meetings will be held as required.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant

The following items were added as information:

1. Eastern Passage Policing - Needs Analysis - Correspondence from Superintendent Beaton dated January 6, 2010
2. Proposed Lake Echo Mobile Home Park - Correspondence from Superintendent Beaton dated January 6, 2010
3. Proposed 2010 Meeting Schedule