

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

January 10, 2011

PRESENT: Commissioner Earl Gosse, Chair
Commissioner Doug MacDonald, Vice Chair
Commissioner Ken Hill
Commissioner Peter Kelly
Commissioner Sue Uteck
Commissioner Reg Rankin
Commissioner Russell Walker
Commissioner Gloria McCluskey
Commissioner Bill Karsten

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, Halifax Regional Police
Deputy Chief Christopher McNeil, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP
Inspector Joanne Crampton, RCMP
Mr. Martin Ward, Solicitor
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Walker called the meeting to order at 1:46 p.m. in the Meisner Room, Police Headquarters.

2. SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMEBRS

Mr. Martin Ward, Solicitor, swore in Commissioners Peter Kelly, Reg Rankin and Sue Uteck as new members of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Commissioner Walker welcomed to new members to the Board.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner MacDonald, that Commissioner Gosse be elected as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners until March 2011. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Commissioner Rankin, seconded by Commissioner Kelly, that Commissioner MacDonald be elected as Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners until March 2011. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. PRESENTATION OF RETIRED MEMBER BADGES - HRP & RCMP

Chief Beazley and Superintendent Beaton presented Commissioners Walker, Karsten and McCluskey with their Board of Police Commissioners retirement badges.

Chief Beazley stated that the last couple of years had been the most challenging and time consuming for any Commission he had worked with in the past and he thanked the Commissioners for their effort.

Superintendent Beaton thanked the Commissioners for their time, effort, and contribution to policing in the community.

Retired Commissioners Walker, Karsten and McCluskey thanked the HRP and RCMP for their hard work as well as the remaining Commissioners and staff.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 8, 2010

MOVED by Commissioner MacDonald, seconded by Commissioner Hill, that the minutes of November 8, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 10.1 Updated RCMP Traffic Report – December 2010
- 10.2 HRP Traffic Report - January 1 - December 31, 2010
- 10.3 Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter - January 2011
- 11.1 Criminal Record Check Fee for Fingerprinting - Memorandum dated January 5, 2011 from Chief Beazley, HRP
- 11.2 Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule - Commissioner Rankin
- 11.3 2011 Objectives– Chair
- 11.4 Recognition Committee – Chief Beazley

MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner MacDonald, that the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

7.1 Commissioner Kelly

Commissioner Kelly requested an overview of the cultural diversity training program referenced on page 7 of the November 8, 2010 minutes.

Inspector Joanne Crampton, RCMP, advised that all RCMP officers in the Halifax district receive this mandatory training as per the agreement with the Preston community and that there was a cultural diversity training program regarding aboriginal peoples as well.

Chief Beazley indicated that all HRP members, including civilian employees, were trained in cultural diversity as well and had been since the Johnson inquiry. He stated that the broader HRM approach involved cultural diversity training regarding all communities and groups.

Inspector Crampton noted that the RCMP includes cultural diversity as part of their basic training as well.

Regarding item 7.2.1 of the November 8, 2010 minutes, Chief Beazley advised Commissioner Rankin that the HRP is obliged to participate in the HRM vacancy management program.

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

9. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

- 9.1 Correspondence - None**
- 9.2 Petitions – None**

9.3 Presentations

9.3.1 Board of Police Commissioners 'Roles and Responsibilities' – Orientation for New Members

The HRP and RCMP provided PowerPoint presentations for the benefit of new members.

Deputy Chief Christopher McNeil, HRP, provided an overview of the Roles and Responsibilities for Police Commissioners as they relate to the HRP; including a review of Section 55 of the Police Act.

A discussion ensued with staff responding to questions.

Deputy Chief McNeil clarified that the dual situation of having both the HRP and RCMP in HRM was not contemplated in the Police Act and that the Board, in essence, acts as a Board of Police Commissioners to the HRP and advisory Board to the RCMP.

Chief Beazley noted that he was accountable to the Provincial Government and the RCMP to the Federal Government. He also stated that By-law P-101 creates a role for the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Board.

Superintendent Beaton presented an overview of the Roles and Responsibilities for Board of Police Commissioners as they relate to the RCMP and provided a copy of the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) for clarity.

Chief Beazley advised that a training session for new members would be provided by the Province.

Chief Beazley and Superintendent Beaton indicated that they would be happy to provide further information regarding integrated policing in HRM at a future meeting.

10. REPORTS

10.1 RCMP Repots

The November & December 2010 RCMP Reports were before the Board.

An Updated RCMP Traffic Report for December 2010 was submitted.

Superintendent Beaton indicated that the November and December 2010 RCMP reports were as submitted.

10.2 HRP Reports

The November & December 2010 HRP Reports were before the Board.

The HRP Traffic Report – January 1 – December 31, 2010 was submitted.

Chief Beazley indicated that the November and December 2010 HRP reports were as submitted.

10.2.1 HRP Budget Update

Chief Beazley provided an update on the HRP Budget; stating that \$632,899 had been taken from the HRP budget for the HRM Vacancy Management Program to date. Chief Beazley advised that the HRP currently had a deficit of approximately \$552,000; however, he had been advised by Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Director of Finance, that this deficit would be made up corporately.

In response to a question posed by Commissioner Kelly, Chief Beazley indicated that the funds currently being put towards Vacancy Management were traditionally used to fund overtime and court time.

10.3 Public Safety Update – Superintendent Spicer

The Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Volume 2, Issue 12 was before the Board.

The Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 1 was submitted.

Superintendent Spicer, HRP, provided a brief overview of the evolution of the Public Safety Office for the benefit of new members.

Superintendent Spicer updated the Board that the HRM Public Safety Strategic Plan, which was approved by the previous Board, would be ready to be presented to the current Board in March and that a year end report would be prepared by that time as well. He indicated that the newsletters were as submitted.

11. ADDED ITEMS

11.1 Criminal Record Check Fee for Fingerprinting - Memorandum dated January 5, 2011 from Chief Beazley, HRP

A memorandum dated January 5, 2011 from Chief Beazley was submitted.

MOVED by Commissioner Uteck, seconded by Commissioner Kelly, that the Board of Police Commissioners accept the Criminal Record Check Fee Increase for Fingerprinting as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule – Commissioner Rankin

Commissioner Rankin suggested that there may be merit in meeting in other areas of HRM on an infrequent basis given that the HRP and RCMP cover the entire Municipality.

MOVED by Commissioner Rankin, seconded by Commissioner Kelly, that the Board of Police Commissioners request that staff investigate options for moving several meetings a year, perhaps quarterly, to other areas of HRM in order to further engage the community. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.3 2011 Objectives – Chair

The Chair stated that it would be beneficial for the Board to set some attainable objectives for the year such as budget, training and conference attendance.

This item will be added to the next agenda.

11.4 Recognition Committee – Chief Beazley

Chief Beazley advised that the HRP had a Recognition Committee which looks at awards and commendations for members and that a Commissioner normally sits on the Committee as well.

MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Rankin, that the Board of Police Commissioners appoint Commissioner MacDonald to the Recognition Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for February 14, 2011

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant

Information Item

1. Proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule