

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES

February 14, 2011

PRESENT: Commissioner Earl Gosse, Chair  
Commissioner Doug MacDonald, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Ken Hill  
Commissioner Sue Uteck  
Commissioner Peter Kelly  
Ms. Micki Ruth, new Provincial Appointee

REGRETS: Commissioner Reg Rankin

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, Halifax Regional Police  
Deputy Chief Tony Burbridge, Halifax Regional Police  
Deputy Chief Chris McNeil, Halifax Regional Police  
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police  
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP  
Ms. Barb Palmeter, Financial Consultant  
Mr. Craig Horton, Finance Administrator  
Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Director of Finance  
Mr. Wayne Anstey, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. in the Meisner Room, Police Headquarters.

The Chair introduced Ms. Micki Ruth, the new Provincial appointee, to the Board.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 10, 2011**

Amendments:

Item 7.1 – *Inspector* rather than *Superintendent* Crampton

Item 9.3.1 – By-law *P-101* rather than *A-100*

**MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner MacDonald that the minutes of January 10, 2011 be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

4.2 Meeting Locations – Superintendent Beaton

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

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1 2011 Objectives - Chair**

A document titled Halifax Board of Police Commissioners - Proposed Objectives for 2011 was submitted.

The Chair noted an amendment to item 1 of document as it should read 2014 rather than 2013.

The Board reviewed the submitted list of suggested 2011 objectives.

Proposed Objective 1: Prepare a positive bid to host the 2014 Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) Conference

Regarding funding for the conference, Chief Beazley indicated that additional money to host the event would not be required as the associated costs were primarily in staff time and that funding would be provided by the host agency as well.

The Chair indicated that he could ask Mr. David Walker, CAPB Director for Nova Scotia, to attend a future Board meeting to discuss the conference process.

The Board agreed to keep this proposed objective.

Proposed Objective 2: Liaise with the Provincial Department of Justice and Nova Scotia Association of Police Boards (NSAPB) as applicable to ensure that HRM's interests are protected regarding Bill No. 72 – Police Act – Creation of the Serious Incident Response Team

The Chair advised that a presentation regarding this matter had taken place last fall and provided an overview for the benefit of the new Commissioners; noting that this new Team would impact HRM in terms of funding.

The Board agreed to keep this proposed objective.

Proposed Objective 3: Establish a Board Budget, in addition to the usual processing of the HRP budget

The Chair suggested setting up a separate budget for the Board.

Ms. Cathie O'Toole, Director of Finance, advised that while administratively it would not be difficult to set up a separate budget, Council had already approved laid out budgets for the year and staff did not have approval to add new items to that budget. She indicated that they could set up a separate cost centre within the HRP budget which would have to be hived out of the existing HRP envelope and that may give the Board more transparency. Ms. O'Toole stated that a second option would be to have a new amount added via a recommendation from the Board to Council and that the amount, if approved, would have to be added to the general tax rate.

Chief Beazley indicated that it currently costs the HRP approximately \$15,000 per year to support the Board which includes monthly meeting expenses and the cost of sending one or two members to conferences which comes out of his travel account.

Ms. O'Toole noted that the cost was consistent with other boards of this size.

The Board discussed whether to keep this proposed objective and agreed to remove it from the list.

Proposed Objective 4: Ensure Suitable Representation at Conferences

The Board agreed to keep this proposed objective.

Proposed Objective 5: Have new Board members attend Board training

The Chair indicated that the Province would probably be running training in early spring.

The Board agreed to keep this proposed objective.

Proposed Objective 6: Smooth out board transition to new members

Chief Beazley advised that to have virtually a whole Board replaced in one year was not good for policing; noting that there was the possibility of having all three civilian members replaced in March. He stated that it would be his recommendation to retain one of the three members or to at least get an extension.

The Board agreed to keep this proposed objective.

The Chair requested additional objective suggestions.

Commissioner Kelly suggested that the Board review the outcome of the Mayor's Roundtable on Violence to get the status of what needs to be done in order to complete the recommendations and to come up with a strategy to move those issues forward.

The Board agreed to this proposed objective.

**MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Uteck that thr Board of Police Commissioners approve the proposed 2011 objectives as discussed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **4.2 Meeting Locations**

Superintendent Beaton stated that he had investigated meeting location options at the local RCMP detachment offices as a result of Commissioner Rankin's motion from the January 10, 2011 meeting. He advised that he would verify the dates and locations at the next meeting.

#### **5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

#### **6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

##### **6.1 Correspondence - None**

##### **6.2 Petitions**

##### **6.3 Presentation**

##### **6.3.1 On-Line Reporting – Mr. Kevin Tulk**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **7. REPORTS**

## **7.1 RCMP Reports & 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2010 Stats**

The January 2011 RCMP Reports and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Statistics were before the Board.

Superintendent Beaton reviewed the combined 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Statistics. He stated that there had been a 5% reduction in persons related crimes; however, there had been an increase in property crime driven primarily by break and enters and theft from vehicles. Superintendent Beaton advised that both the RCMP and HRP had been providing education, enforcement and public service announcements regarding this ongoing issue.

Commissioner Kelly stated that he would like to see a stronger approach regarding domestic violence as 25% of calls were related to this issue when he was on a ride along.

Chief Beazley and Superintendent Beaton suggested that the Board be provided with a presentation from the Department of Justice regarding their new Domestic Violence Action Plan. Chief Beazley will follow up on this matter.

## **7.2 HRP Reports & 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2010 Stats**

The January 2011 HRP Reports and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Statistics were before the Board.

As the combined 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Statistics had been discussed under item 7.1, Chief Beazley indicated that the January 2011 HRP reports were as submitted.

The meeting recessed at 1:26 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:34 p.m. with the same members present with the exception of Commissioner MacDonald.

### **7.2.1 HRP Budget Update**

The 2011/12 Preliminary Operating Budget presentation and spreadsheet was submitted.

Chief Beazley indicated that the HRP Budget referred to police, community projects, crossing guards and integrated services. He stated that he would be requesting an operating budget of \$74,874,000 for 2011/2012 which was an 8.25% increase from the previous year. He reviewed what that increase would include as outlined in the presentation.

Ms. O'Toole stated that staff had been directed by Council to work within the 2010/2011 budget plus CPI or MPI which would equate to an increase of approximately 2 to 4% per business unit; however, some units required higher or lower increases depending on their function, therefore, the 8.25% HRP increase would even out. She indicated that

HRM was conducting a corporate wide correction on overtime which would include increased controls. She advised that budgets were being adjusted based on the historical overtime average of less than 10% which would amount to an \$898,000 adjustment for police. Ms. O'Toole stated that there was nothing on the HRP list that finance staff did not agree with in terms of budget.

Chief Beazley continued his presentation; noting that he met with the HRM Senior Management Team and was advised that business plans must align with Council Focus Areas, Community Outcome Areas, Administrative (EMT) Priorities and Chief Administrative Officer Priorities. Chief Beazley stated that staff would continue to develop and refine the above noted items prior to finalizing the HRP budget and that he would provide the Board with a copy once complete.

A discussion on the presentation ensued with staff responding to questions.

Chief Beazley indicated that he was seeking a motion from the Board for the presented budget as the amount would not change.

It was noted that the Department of Justice had not yet given HRM staff any direction regarding a new RCMP contract increase for the 2011/2012 budget.

**MOVED by Commissioner Kelly, seconded by Commissioner Uteck that the Board of Police Commissioners move approval in principal of the presented Halifax Regional Police 2011/12 Preliminary Operating Budget of \$74,874,940 and request that further information be provided at the March 14, 2011 meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **7.3 Public Safety Update – Superintendent Don Spicer**

The Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 2 was submitted.

Superintendent Spicer stated that the Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 2 was as submitted. He indicated that staff were in the early planning stages of an initiative with the working title of Eye on HRM which would be an engagement strategy for outside workers in the municipality; noting that there would be a reporting structure for them similar to a neighbourhood watch. He stated that safety fairs would be held in communities throughout HRM to bring the message to the public.

**8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE – March 14, 2011**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory

February 14, 2011

Legislative Assistant

Information Item

1. Department Order 44-10 – Chaplaincy Unit