



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
May 16, 2016**

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell Walker, Chair
Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Steve Craig
Commissioner Sylvia Parris (by teleconference)
Commissioner Ed MacMaster

REGRETS: Commissioner Jeff Mitchell

STAFF: Chief Jean Michel Blais, HRP
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, RCMP
Mr. John Traves, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Katherine Salsman, Solicitor
Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/160516bopc-agenda.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. and adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Russell Walker, Chair called the meeting to order in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

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

Additions: None

Commissioner Walker suggested that Item No. 7.3.1 take place after Item No. 9.2.1.

MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Craig,

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – NONE

7.2 Petitions – NONE

7.3 Presentation

7.3.1 Halifax Regional Police/RCMP – Explosive Disposal Unit

This matter was dealt with later in the meeting. Please see page 6.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Presentation - Police Facilities Business Case

The following was before the Board:

- *A staff information report dated May 11, 2016*
- *A presentation dated May 16, 2016*

Chief Jean-Michel Blais, HRP introduced Superintendent Sean Auld, and Mr. Terry Gallagher, Manager of Facility Development and provided a brief presentation regarding the Police Facilities Business Case.

Commissioner Walker thanked Chief Blais and requested questions of clarification from members of the Board

In response to a question of clarification from Commissioner Graham, Superintendent Sean Auld, HRP advised that one building for a new Police Headquarters would likely be sufficient for a new facility. He further advised that zone offices throughout the municipality would have a presence given HRM large geographic area. He noted that a single building for a new headquarters would allow for a more effective layout ensuring the key departments are within the same area.

Commissioner Craig commented that he would like to see more information beyond the bricks and mortar of a building and advised that more detail in relation to how the facility will assist with the HRM's overall policing model will help Board members gain understanding of future operational opportunities.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner Adams, Chief Blais advised that there is no specific preference with respect to the preferred siting of the building other than that of a business park. He advised that HRP strives to make their buildings as accessible to the public as and noted that the building should be one that that the public can use.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner Adams, Mr. Gallagher advised that the actual build price for a dedicated HRP facility would likely approximately fall in the \$80 million range. He provided further detail with respect to efficient design specifications, the lifecycle of the building, and the intended uses as factors to be detailed in the architectural study.

In response to a commentary from Councillor Craig, Chief Blais advised that information in relation to the proposed facility provided to Regional Council will also be provided to the Board.

Mr. John Traves, Acting Chief Administrative Officer noted that the funding for the proposal came out of Regional Council's 2015-16 Budget. He advised that Council's obligation with respect to the matter needs to be done with input from the Board. He commented that once study under way, there will likely be a number of places for input and discussion with stakeholders, the Board included. He advised that the facility study is very preliminary and it is the starting point for the entire process.

9.1.2 Chief's Report

Chief Blais gave an overview of the Chief's report. He delivered background information with respect to HRP's training activities and personnel statistics. He provided further commentary on the following:

- There are 24 Atlantic Police Academy cadets beginning on the job training with HRP.
- HRP is conducting interviews for more experienced officers to come on board in June and July.
- There have been four homicides in the community between March 29 and April 29. He advised that investigations are ongoing and is believed that two of the homicides are connected with the other two being separate.
- There have been community meetings in consultation with other levels of government to help address violent crime. He advised that the communities in which the recent homicides take place have been actively involved in finding solutions to address the issue.
- HRP has launched an education enforcement campaign in Point Pleasant Park to address motor vehicle violations in the area
- HRP is conducting joint road checks to ensure motor vehicle compliance.
- HRP and RCMP have charged 61 drivers for motor vehicle infractions such as driving while impaired by alcohol and drugs
- Noted Police Week activities as well as the upcoming National Prescription Drug Drop off Day with the RCMP on May 21, 2016 noting two locations at the Halifax Shopping Centre and Micmac Mall.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner MacMaster, Inspector Martin Marin, RCMP advised that RCMP and HRP analysts ensure that statistics such as clearance rates are interpreted using the same methodology to ensure accuracy.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner MacMaster, Chief Blais commented that crime statistics alone do not typically drive all aspects of policing. He advised that it is important for people to know that community concerns, strategic planning, and dealing with people play a significant role in policing.

Further discussion ensued with members of the Commission reviewing the merits of crime statistics and how the information contained is communicated to the general public.

Commissioner Walker thanked Chief Blais for the report and welcomed Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, RCMP to her first Board meeting and to the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Chief Superintendent Bergerman, RCMP gave an overview of the Chief's Report. She delivered background information with respect to Halifax District RCMP's training activities and personnel statistics. She provided commentary on the following:

- RCMP Victim Services Coordinator have reviewed 238 files for the month of April.
- RCMP members have stepped up their presence the North Preston areas due to the recent increase in violence in the area.
- RCMP has laid charges with respect to an individual stealing four cars in the Tantallon area.
- RCMP has laid charges with respect to a recent stabbing in Sackville.
- Town hall public meetings are ongoing in Halifax District RCMP areas which the COMSTAT model is shown and interpreted to the public to educate on how crime trends are interpreted. She noted that members of the Board are invited to attend.
- An open house will be held on May 18th at RCMP Police Headquarters as part of Police Week.
- Constable Travis Gallant, RCMP performed two-person CPR on an individual in distress along Highway 118 with successful results.

Commissioner Walker thanked Chief Superintendent Bergerman for her report.

9.1.3 Bi-Monthly Strategic Plan Update

The following was before the Board:

- *The Bi-Monthly Strategic Plan Update Report dated May 16, 2016.*

Chief Blais provided an overview of the Bi-Monthly Strategic Plan Update Report.

The Bi-Monthly Strategic Plan update report was received by the Board as submitted.

9.1.4 HRP Quarterly Report

Chief Blais provided an overview of the HRP Quarterly Report.

The HRP Quarterly Report was received by the Board as submitted.

9.1.5 RCMP Quarterly Report

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Quarterly Reports*

Chief Superintendent Bergerman gave an overview of the RMCP Quarterly report.

The RCMP Quarterly Report was received by the Board as submitted.

9.1.6 RCMP/HRP Combined Dashboard

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP/HRP Combined Dashboard report*

Chief Blais and Chief Superintendent Bergerman gave an overview of the RCMP/HRP Combined Dashboard Report.

The RCMP/HRP Combined Dashboard report was received by the Board as submitted.

9.1.7 Board Member Orientation/Training

Commissioner Walker requested that members of the Board identify areas of the interest to be covered in the Orientation provided to Board members.

Commissioner Craig commented that he would be interested in touring both RCMP and HRP headquarters to gain a better understanding of the work that is conducted by both civilian and sworn HRP and RCMP members.

Commissioner MacMaster noted that further context and training with respect to HRP's strategic plan would be beneficial for new members of the Commission as input into its development is a key responsibility of the Board.

Commissioner Walker requested that Board members contact the Legislative Assistant with further input regarding orientation/training with the purpose of scheduling an event in the near future.

9.2 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

9.2.1 Commissioner Graham – Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Conference August 12-14, 2016 <http://capgconference.ca/>

Commissioner Graham gave an overview of the conference and his last meeting at the CAPG Board of Directors. He advised of the upcoming Canadian Association of Police Governance conference, August 12-14 in Ottawa.

7.3.1 Halifax Regional Police/RCMP – Explosive Disposal Unit

Staff Sargent Greg Mason provided an overview of the Explosive Disposal Unit. Commissioner Walker thanked Staff Sargent Mason for his presentation and requested questions of clarification from members of the Board. There were no questions of clarification.

10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 20, 2016

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant