

# **HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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## **BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2003**

**PRESENT:** Comm. Bryson, Chair  
Comm. Harvey  
Comm. Hetherington  
Comm. North  
Comm. Monard  
Comm. Perrin

**ALSO PRESENT:** Acting Police Chief Beazley  
Acting Deputy Police Chief McNeil  
Inspector Fraser, RCMP  
Inspector Lepine, RCMP  
Ms. Lynne Le Boutillier, Legislative Assistant

**ABSENT:** Comm. Adams (regrets)

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The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., Halifax Hall by the Chair.

0.1 **SWEARING IN OF PROVINCIAL APPOINTEE**

Mr. Barry Allen, HRM Solicitor conducted the swearing in of Mr. James Perrin, the recent Provincial appointee to the Board of Police Commissioners.

0.2 **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

A Certificate of Merit was presented to Mr. Elias Salloum for his role in apprehending a burglar.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

The following items were added to agenda:

Under New Business RCMP:

- 6.1 Sexual Investigation Team - Update
- 6.2 Resources Review - Halifax Detachment
- 6.3 Domestic Violence Training
- 6.4 Area Exchange

Three additional information items were circulated at the meeting:

- C APB February
- C CAPB - Ontario Association of Police Boards Annual Conference
- C Police Memorial Service

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY Comm. Hetherington and seconded by Comm. Harvey that the January 13, 2003 minutes be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED.**

3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES/STATUS SHEET**

3.1 **FEE SCHEDULE**

- C Schedule of Fees for Service - Report dated February 5, 2003 (circulated at meeting)

The Acting Chief updated the Board on discussions with Inspector Barnett of the RCMP. A/C Beazley would like the implementation of the Schedule of Fees for Service, region wide.

Comm. Hetherington expressed concern regarding the \$11.50 fee proposed to conduct volunteer checks. He noted that the RCMP does not charge for this service. Concern was expressed by Acting Chief Beazley that if the fee was waived as proposed by Comm. Hetherington, the volume of applications would rise significantly. It was noted that the proposed \$11.50 fee represents a reduction from the current \$28.75 fee.

In conclusion, Comm. Hetherington indicated he could support the implementation of the fee structure if a review of the impact of the fee structure is given to the Board in six months.

**MOVED BY Comm. Harvey and seconded by Comm. Hetherington that the Board approve the schedule of fees, attached to the February 5, 2003 report, for services provided by the Halifax Regional Police. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### 3.2 SECURITY CHECKS

See item 3.1 for Acting Chief Beazley's update.

### 3.3 D.A.R.E EDUCATION PROGRAM

- C Report dated February 10, 2003 on the D.A.R.E. Education Program circulated.
- C Article from the Bedford/Sackville News, February 5, 2003 entitled "Prescription drugs sold in schools"

Acting Deputy Chief McNeil reviewed the report which concluded with the recommendation that the D.A.R.E. Education Program not be implemented in all HRM schools and that the HRP remain with its current programs

He provided reasons for this conclusion including costs associated with the D.A.R.E. Education Program and the limited number of children it would reach. He also outlined the benefits of the HRP's programs which are quite comprehensive. Comm. Monard, a school principal, noted that the HRP program is popular with both the students and teachers. She liked the proactive nature of portions of it.

**MOVED BY Comm. Hetherington and seconded by Comm. North that the Board recommend to Regional Council that the D.A.R.E. Education Program not be implemented in all HRM Schools and the HRP remain with its current programs. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED.**

4. **NEW BUSINESS (HRP)**

4.1 **POLICING SERVICES STUDY**

- C Table dated January 29, 2003, prepared by Bill Moore, identifying recommendations relating to the HRM Board of Police Commissioners in the Police Services Study.

Comm. North made reference to his appointment to the Steering Committee, which continues to meet monthly on the Study. Bill Moore is coordinating on behalf of the CAO. Comm. North referred to the next steps listed. He felt it would be useful if the Board met with Bill Moore, acting as a facilitator, to go through the recommendations, so feedback from the Board can be obtained.

Acting Chief Beazley noted that Betty MacDonald would also be willing to meet with the Board to go through the process. He felt the Board members need a clear understanding of the implications of the recommendations contained in the study. Reference was made to there being some overlap with the Nova Scotia Police Act Review.

The Chair cautioned that over the course of a couple of months there will be a significant change in the Board's membership. The new Board members will have to be briefed on the two parallel processes. In the meantime, Comm. Hetherington proposed that Comm. North and Bill Moore determine where the Nova Police Act proposal and Policing Services Study differ. Reference was made to comments on the N.S. Police Act are to be submitted for April 1, 2003, but Acting Deputy Chief McNeil indicated they are trying to obtain a further extension.

It was noted that the experience of the current Board members would be useful, particularly at a philosophical level.

**MOVED BY Comm. Hetherington and seconded by Comm. Monard to defer anything further on the Policing Services Study until the April Board meeting. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED.**

In the interim, Comm. North indicated he will continue working with Bill Moore.

#### 4.2 **HRP BUSINESS PLAN**

- C A revised version of the Regional Police Business Plan presented earlier to the Program and Service Review Committee was circulated.

Acting Chief Beazley highlighted various aspects of the report for the Board, in particular the analysis of proposed changes related to the following:

- Beat Patrol Gottingen Street area
- Traffic Unit
- Recruiting, selection and training of new police officers
- succession planning
- Automatic Finger Print System (AFPS) - requires Clerk to operate system
- Booking staff enhancements
- Additional Crime Analyst

It was noted that there are sufficient funds to implement the AFPS.

#### 5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES (RCMP)**

#### 6. **NEW BUSINESS (RCMP)**

None.

#### 6.1 **SEXUAL INVESTIGATION TEAM UPDATE**

Inspector Fraser updated the Board on what has transpired since the initial presentation six months ago. Two regular members formed a full-time sexual assault team. An additional two positions have been requested. Until a review of resources is complete, see item 6.2, no action can be taken. In the interim, interviewing will take place of the six applicants for the positions. The RCMP has discussed with the HRP work on a joint initiative.

#### 6.2 **RESOURCES REVIEW - HALIFAX DETACHMENT**

Inspector Pete Lepine advised that the resources review has commenced to determine what is being done with present resources, both equipment and individuals, before application for additional resources will be made. The review should be completed by March and provide a baseline. The RCMP will be reporting to the Board in due course and will share their findings with the HRP.

6.3 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING**

Reference was made to the hiring of an individual to deal with domestic violence issues. Inspector Lepine and Inspector Sykes are working on joint training.

6.4 **AREA EXCHANGE**

C An e-mail dated February 7, 2003 entitled "Police Jurisdiction Boundary Changes in East Division".

The e-mail outlines jurisdictional changes in East Division which take effect February 15, 2003 which reflect recent boundary realignment for the Dartmouth and Cole Harbour communities.

Comm. Hetherington indicated he was pleased to see the changes, however he felt that reference needs to be made to Alpine Drive. For 911 purposes, he noted that Alpine Drive can't be accessed via Portland Street. This should be addressed as soon as possible. He also noted that an application for a thirty-six (36) acre expansion of Portland Hills has been made.

7. **ADDED ITEMS**

None.

8. **STATISTICS**

8.1 **VICTIM SERVICES**

The Statistics Report and Victim Services Counsellor Monthly statistics for December 2002 were circulated in the agenda package for the members' information.

8.2 **STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN FOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

The annual report was circulated in the agenda package for the members' information.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, March 10, 2003.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Before the regular session adjourned to meet In Camera, Comm. Hetherington thanked Comm. Bryson for the service he has provided to the Halifax Regional Municipality in his capacity as Chair over the past three years.

**MOVED BY Comm. Hetherington and Comm. Monard that the meeting adjourn to meet in camera. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED.**

Lynne Le Boutillier  
Legislative Assistant

