

# **HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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## **BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES NOVEMBER 18, 2002**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Acting Chief of Police Beazley  
Acting Deputy Chief McNeil  
Supt. Stan Ferguson, RCMP  
Mr. Robert Eyre, Policing & Victim Services, NS. Dept. of Justice  
Ms. Lynne Le Boutillier, Assistant Municipal Clerk

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

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

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

Comm. Monard requested item 4.3 - CAPB meeting be added to the agenda.

The Statistics Report for September 2002 related to item 8.1 was provided with the Added Items, as were copies of "Blue Line", November 2002 issue to the Commissioners.

The revised agenda was adopted by consensus.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED BY Comm. Monard and seconded by Comm. Harvey that the October 7, 2002 minutes be adopted, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

3.1 **2003 CAPB CONFERENCE**

Mr. Mike Gillett, Coordinator, Civic Events and Festivals was in attendance for this item.

Comm. Monard, referring to the recent CAPB meeting she attended, noted that the members have high expectations for the CAPB Conference being held in HRM next year based on previous experience.

Acting Deputy Chief McNeil noted that until the December 2, 2002 meeting with Wendy Feduc, Executive Director, CAPB, what exactly the local component will be won't be known. He envisaged the forming of a Committee.

The Chair recalled that the Board's involvement essentially was related to organizing a golf tournament and meal.

Comm. Monard indicated she has looked into booking a Chester golf course. She and Ms. Feduc will do a site visit December 1, 2002. Costs associated with golfing are paid by the participants.

In addition, the hosts pay for one meal during the Conference. Comm. Monard has obtained \$500.00 from the NSAPB toward costs.

Comm. Hetherington suggested Comm. Monard might wish to check into the facilities at Pier

21. A very successful event was held there in association with UNSM.

3.2 **OFFER OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT - SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

A Supplemental Information Report, dated October 16, 2002, from Acting Chief Frank Beazley was provided in the agenda package. The subject of an offer to donate \$50,000 to the Police Department to assist with the costs of maintaining a police presence in the area of Uniacke and Brunswick Streets had been discussed at the October meeting. The Board felt that it would be more appropriate for such a donation to be directed to a community group. Mr. Keung was contacted about putting the money towards crime prevention initiatives. He declined.

4. **NEW BUSINESS (HRP)**

4.1 **NOVASCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE BOARDS - TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

Information was contained in the agenda package regarding upcoming Training Workshops being sponsored by the NSAPB and the Department of Justice. The one being held in HRM is taking place Saturday, December 7, 2002, Dartmouth Sportsplex. Comm. Monard is anxious to have confirmation of who will be attending. Given it is anticipated that Regional Council will be appointing new Councillors to the Board at tomorrow night's meeting, the Clerk was instructed to provide this information to the new appointees.

4.2 **APPOINTMENT TO THE POLICE STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE**

An appointment of one of the Board members to the Police Study Steering Committee was desired by Mr. McLellan. Given the work of the Steering Committee is anticipated to extend beyond March, it was felt that the appointment should be made of a member whose term will not be up shortly.

**MOVED BY Comm. Harvey, seconded by Comm. Hetherington the Comm. North represent the Board on the Police Study Steering Committee. MOTION PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4.3 **CAPB MEETING**

Comm. Monard referred to a meeting she attended over the weekend as member of the Executive of the CAPB. She recalled that before accepting the appointment she sought confirmation that associated expenses related to travel for this purpose would be covered. While she was not in attendance at the meeting when the issue was raised, she understood that it was agreed her expenses would be taken care of and in light of the dual police services

serving HRM, it was suggested cost sharing with the RCMP might be considered. Acting Chief Beazley indicated he would provide Comm. Monard with the Expense Forms and he will deal with the expense claim.

Reference was made to an all day session, Comm. Monard attended Friday and the seminar held Saturday on the roles of public police and private agencies. Reference was made to a **Discussion Paper entitled "In Search of Security: The Roles of Public Police and Private Agencies"** submitted by the Law Commission of Canada. Comm. Monard quoted the following from the report:

"The research evidence suggests that public police in urban Halifax can no longer satisfactorily respond to community and business requests for more patrol presence, policing at public events, minor property and person protection, and complex theft and fraud investigations...In other words the growing market for private security in Halifax is in part a function of the rationalization of public policing." She expressed surprise at this reference.

Comm. Monard questioned to what extent the private sector is involved in policing. She also raised the issue of governance expectations of the public.

Acting Deputy Chief McNeil felt this conclusion was drawn due to the \$1 million spent on Extra Duty policing. However, he noted that a large amount of these funds are spent in relation to the Port Authority and the Spring Garden Road Merchants Association.

Acting Chief Beazley referred to an international conference being held in February on this topic, which Tony Blair will be attending. He also noted that the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police has a committee which is also looking at the report and discussions will be held the end of the month in Toronto. He will provide more information for the next Board meeting. Reference was also made to the Law Reform Commission having held a meeting at Dalhousie University related to the desire of private security firms for a greater presence. Issues of governance and law were discussed.

Comm. Monard referred to a key address given by Nathalie Des Rosiers, President, Law Commission of Canada on the topic "In Search of Security - Law Reform in the XXIst Century".

During the ensuing discussion, it was felt that the wrong impression is being given of what is taking place in Halifax, i.e. private security firms are not policing the streets of Halifax. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the Law Commission of Canada. Comm. North noted that it is clearly a Discussion Paper, which staff prepared for circulation to interested parties and responses will be taken into consideration before the final report is prepared. He proposed that the members review the Discussion Paper and one or two make a submission if the comments are clearly erroneous. Copies of the report will be provided to the Board members. A joint submission of the Board and HRP may be considered.

Comm. Monard advised that she will be putting this subject on the agenda of NSAPB agenda.

Reference was also made to a Conference being sponsored by the Canadian Police College, December 8 to 10, 2002 in Ottawa re "Finding Common Ground: Governance of Police Organizations for Police Service Board Members".

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

5.1 **POLICE STUDY - REPORT RE \$600,000 SURPLUS**

Supt. Ferguson reported that he has raised the subject with Betty MacDonald and Comm. Adams to try to identify the \$600,000 to no avail. He requested that the item be deferred until December.

6. **NEW BUSINESS (RCMP)**

7. **ADDED ITEMS**

See Item 8.1.

8. **STATISTICS**

8.1 **VICTIM SERVICES - STATISTICS REPORT AND COUNSELLOR MONTHLY STATISTICS**

In addition to the Counsellor monthly statistics circulated in the agenda package, the Statistics Report for September was circulated at the meeting.

9. **NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next meeting will be held Monday, December 9, 2002.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m. to meet in Camera.

Lynne LeBoutillier  
Assistant Municipal Clerk

