

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
December 10, 2007

PRESENT: Commissioner Gloria McCluskey
Commissioner Russell Walker
Commissioner Terry Roane
Commissioner William White

REGRETS: Commissioner Krista Snow
Commissioner Kenneth Hill
Commissioner Jim Perrin
Chief Frank Beazley, HRP
Supt. Gordon Barnett, RCMP

STAFF: Deputy Chief McNeil
Deputy Chief Burbridge, HRP
Ms. Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER - Councillor Walker

The meeting was called to order at 12: 35 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 26, 2007

MOVED by Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Walker, that the minutes of November 26, 2007 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

ADDITIONS:

5.1 POLICE RESOURCING STUDY UPDATE

5.2 CITY WATCH

City Watch was deferred from last meeting. Commissioner Roane asked the it be placed as an addition on the agenda for today's meeting. However, Commissioner McCluskey asked and it was agreed that it be deferred till Commissioner Snow could be present and could speak to the matter.

4. REPORTS

4.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION REPORT 3RD QUARTER

The Board looked at the HRP stats noting that crime is definitely on the downward trend. Some numbers appear to be higher perhaps causing false alarm, However, what it actually means is that enforcement is higher and there have been more charges laid.

It would be beneficial if the numbers of assaults could be broken out to reflect the number of domestic assaults. It would give a sense of comfort to the public to know that these numbers do not represent numbers of random attacks; they also represent the numbers of domestic assaults as well. This should increase their sense of safety on the street. It was noted that most all HRP's resources were allocated to crime in the street in the past. Now there needs to be an analysis of domestic assaults. The police need to look at what is going on and are present tactics dealing with these types of assaults enough. Should there be a change in the tactics used in domestic assaults as opposed to the tactics used in regular assaults. The police may need to see what other jurisdictions are doing. The

Board will either see the results of this analysis in the reporting of stats or in the form of an official report.

As mentioned before some numbers are up and one being prostitution. There has just been a major sweep in the area with the parties being charged and court dates set.

Commissioner McCluskey asked if the names of the "johns" have been released yet and if not, whose responsibility is it to publish the names. She was told that they have not been and that the police did not release names; that it was a matter of public record. The police will continue to sweep both sides of the bridge.

There is only one homicide left open to investigation.

4.2 RCMP REPORT - NOVEMBER 2007

It is noted again that increased enforcement gives increased numbers; i.e., with drug stats with more charges being laid.

The Board was advised that there is no shortage in speeders. Speed is the number one cause in accidents and fatalities. There is an increased number of accident fatalities this year. There is also a real spike in DWI's.

4.3 LETTER OF RESIGNATION DATED DECEMBER 3, 2007 - WILLIAM H. WHITE

Deferred until next meeting. Commissioners White offered some comments/suggestions:

- < New appointee should be invited to attend the meetings before they actually become a member to give them some sense of what goes on.
- < Packages should be given to the appointments well in advance of actually sitting on the Board. This package should include Terms of Reference, a digest of the makeup of HRP, documentation that outlines the procedures and workings of HRP and Sackville detachment RCMP.

Commissioner Roane told the group that she did not know if there were any Terms of Reference and perhaps that is something that should be looked at. The Legislative Assistant will ask the Municipal Clerk if Terms of Reference do exist and report back to the Commissioner Roane. We need to look at if there are none, can we do our own Terms of Reference and/or how far we can change the existing ones. This should be added to next meeting for discussion.

The question was raised as to how does one get appointed to the Board and what is the criteria to be appointed to the Board. Can we suggest to the Selection Committee who we want. Commissioner Roane will look into it and report back to the Board.

5. ADDED ITEMS

None

5.1 POLICE RESOURCING STUDY UPDATE:

Commissioner Roane met with Marion Currie, Project Coordinator, to obtain an update on this matter. She had asked Ms. Currie prior to this meeting to obtain a status report from Keith Taylor. It was noted in this report that the consultants have three (3) more interviews to do. Commissioner Roane is to contact Marion Currie to inquire when these interviews will be done. The draft proposal is due January 10 and be available to review at the next meeting.

The question was raised as to whether a special meeting should be held to review this document as it is a lengthy document. It was suggested that at the next meeting an executive summary could be drafted. The Board would then peruse this summary to make certain that the mandate of the RFP has been met. Another meeting could be reschedule to discuss this more in depth. Commissioner Roane is to email group with the particulars.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 14, 2008.

The 2008 Schedule will be re-issued by the Clerk's Office to reflect the changes of the following meeting dates:

- < March 17, 2008
- < October 20, 2008

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned into the In Camera session at 1. p.m.

Barbara Coleman
Legislative Assistant