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Minutes: The Blue Mountains Police Services Board



MEETING DATE: March 5, 2014
MEETING TIME: 9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Thornbury OPP Station Boardroom
PREPARED BY: Stephen Keast, Secretary

A. Call to Order

- Chair Knott called the meeting to order with all members in attendance.
- Also in attendance was Inspector John Trude and Sergeant Charlie Watts of the Collingwood – The Blue Mountains Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police.
- Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Ellen Anderson Seconded by: Cam Kennedy

THAT the Agenda of March 5, 2013, be approved as circulated, including any items added to the Agenda, Carried.

- No member declared a pecuniary interest with any matter as listed on the Agenda
- Previous Minutes

Moved by: Cam Kennedy Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

THAT the minutes of the December 4, 2013 Police Services Board meeting be adopted as circulated, including the revision requested by Council on December 16, 2013 to the Board composition Resolution.

In speaking to the Motion, Mayor Anderson then noted it was important to include the Council revision of December 16 to the Police Services Board Resolution of December 4. Cam then questioned as a Provincial appointment if he was beholden to the Town, Chair Knott replying no.

Ellen then noted the Council request for the revision is simply a clarification that Council determines the final composition of the Board.

The Board then voted on the Resolution, Carried.

B. Deputations / Presentations

Under the authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001* and in accordance with Ontario's *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (MFIPPA), The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains wishes to inform the public that all information including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation provided for or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record. This information may be posted on the Town's website and or/ made available to the public upon request.

None

C. Staff Reports as circulated

C.1 Detachment Commander's Report

Charlie then reviewed the Report, beginning with current staffing.

Charlie then reported on a meeting with the Community Policing Committee (CPC) for input in updating the current Business Plan.

Charlie then reviewed Monthly Occurrence Statistics for 2012 and 2013, as requested by CAO Troy Speck with reporting changed to make it more relevant to the Board. Charlie then noted things appear fairly consistent.

Charlie then reviewed hours worked in 2012 and 2013, noting actual hours versus contract were less in 2012, with an increase toward contract hours in 2013. Charlie further noted the difference could be a result of training, sickness or maternity leave, adding 2012 also featured a double murder which added to overtime hours.

Charlie then reported the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) service was now again available in Grey and Bruce Counties and the OPP are working with Town Municipal Law Enforcement Officer (MLEO) in animal control.

Charlie then reported the OPP continue to work with the Share the Road program in partnership with the Town and continue to work with the CPC regarding Short Term Accommodation (STA) information.

Charlie then reported there would be two major cycling events in 2014, the Centurion and a second, more professional class race. Charlie noted participants in the second event would be racing for seasonal standings and would race in groups, always staying on one lane of any road or risk disqualification. Charlie further noted this event would be one day, May 10, and would have paid duty officer coverage.

Charlie then noted a great deal of time had been spent on contract negotiation in 2013 which is now on hold until 2015.

Charlie then reported all Regional Traffic Safety Initiatives had operated in the last quarter.

Cam then questioned when the increased distracted driver fines would be in place, John replying March 18.

Referring back to Monthly Occurrence Statistics, Charlie noted 911 hang-ups are a significant issue for all Ontario police forces as all 911 calls must be responded to. John noted the matter is more of a software/hardware issue with telephone providers and having 911 entered into speed dials is a good idea, but such calls from Blue Mountain Resort (BMR) are triangulated into a 3.5 square kilometre area, Charlie noting many calls appear to be from Georgian Bay.

John then noted often a Hercules search and rescue aircraft is dispatched from Trenton and costs are significant, adding communications are Federally regulated and the matter has to be addressed.

Cam then noted false alarm calls must be down following implementation of the By-law, Charlie replying they are much decreased.

Michael Seguin was then in attendance and was allowed to question if the Monthly Occurrence Statistics were just for The Blue Mountains, John replying yes

Chair Knott then questioned the process for response to animal calls and if the OPP were called first with the OPP then calling the OSPCA, Charlie replying the initial call

E. Other Business

Mayor Anderson then recounted a recent discussion with Bill Abbotts on the Share the Road program and she was trying to better understand the process, adding she found it difficult to pass single file cyclists with oncoming traffic and if the cyclists were side by side, she would wait for oncoming traffic to move by.

John then noted he had met with Bill as well, adding it may be safer for cyclists to ride side by side but it would require an amendment to the *Highway Traffic Act* (the Act), as cyclists and slow moving vehicles are at present required to move to the right as far as possible when being overtaken by vehicular traffic.

Ellen then noted her meeting with Bill was not critical in any way, John replying the OPP have met with cyclist groups for discussions and will continue to do so.

Chair Knott then reported he has had many discussions with area residents and most people are more receptive to single file cyclist traffic but were annoyed with cyclists two or three or four abreast.

Ellen then noted in moving forward does it make sense for the Town to encourage the Province to review the Act, John replying it may be preferable to encourage Ontario cycling groups to organize and approach municipalities with a position for consideration.

Charlie then noted Bill often goes on ride-alongs with the OPP to observe traffic and behaviour.

Michael Seguin then questioned if there was opportunity to include marathons and group walks in the Share the Road program, Charlie replying the OPP partnered with the Town in the Share the Road video and agriculture was included, adding there are increasing requests for marathons and the Share the Road program is for everyone. John then noted the use of trails was also encouraged for such events.

F. Next Meeting Date(s)

June 11, 2014, 9:30 a.m., OPP Station Boardroom

G. Adjournment

As there was nothing further before the Chair, the Board dealt with the following Resolution:

Moved by: Cam Kennedy Seconded by: Ellen Anderson

That this meeting does now adjourn at a.m. to meet again June 11, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at the OPP Station Boardroom, or at the call of the Chair, Carried.