

June 29, 2021

STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Comms. B. Atkinson, N. Terris, S. Campbell, D. MacGillivray and K. Mason. Also present, Town Clerk S. Higdon, Police Chief M. Hobeck and Inspector C. Pond. Comm. B. Knight sent his regrets.

The meeting was chaired by D. MacGillivray in absence of Chairman B. Knight as he was unable to attend.

AGENDA

Comm. B. Atkinson approved the agenda with the addition of three items: 9. Street Yield Sign and two items tabled from Committee of the Whole: 10. Crosswalk at Allan Avenue and Foord Street and 11. Crosswalk at Union Street and Foord Street, seconded by Comm. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. N. Terris made a motion to accept the June 29, 2021 Police Commission Minutes, seconded by Comm. B. Atkinson. **Motion Carried.**

SWEARING IN – COMMISSIONER KEVIN MASON

New Commission member Comm. Kevin Mason was sworn in by Acting Chairman D. MacGillivray. Comm. D. MacGillivray said K. Mason has a long history in law enforcement and community involvement and is an asset to the Commission.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a. Summer Street Industries Presentation.

Chief M. Hobeck reported meeting with the Police Chief for the Town of Westville and two members from Summer Street Industries. He said we are moving forward on some introductions into some members in our community that fall under their services and also trying to plan out better ways of responding to calls and having them assist us. In their presentation, he said they showed us that they are going to be a valuable resource to us in dealing with some members of the community. He said we are making progress and with restrictions starting to lift.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Town Clerk S. Higdon stated that the position of Vice Chair is vacant now that former Vice Chair Comm. D. Taylor is no longer a member of the Commission.

S. Higdon called for nominations for a new Vice Chair. Comm. S. Campbell nominated Comm. D. MacGillivray, seconded by Comm. B. Atkinson. Comm. D. MacGillivray accepted the nomination. S. Higdon asked three times if there were any further nominations, hearing none, **Motion Carried.**

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JUNE 2021

The monthly activity report for the month of June 2021 was presented and reviewed.

Comm. D. MacGillivray noted that foot and bike patrols are up to 53.5 hours. He asked if this was mostly foot patrols or a mix of both. Chief M. Hobeck said mixture of both but mostly foot patrols

Chief Hobeck noted the number of calls for service this month totaled 193.

Comm. B. Atkinson reported a car travelling 60 - 70 kms that went through a stop sign on Poplar Street.

The monthly activity report for the month of June 2021 was accepted as presented on motion Comm. S. Campbell seconded by Comm. N. Terris. **Motion Carried**

COMMENDATION TO STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE

Vice Chairman D. MacGillivray presented Inspector C. Pond with a letter of commendation to the entire police department. Vice Chair D. MacGillivray commented that we receive a lot of feedback from residents about the drug houses in the town, about the disruption of neighborhoods and by shutting them down we are improving the quality of life of residents. He thanked the Chief, Inspect. C. Pond and the department for a job well done.

STREET YIELD SIGN

Comm. B. Atkinson reported that it was brought to his attention that a yield sign might be required coming out of the new Stellarton Petro Canada located by the rotary to avoid a potential accident. Chief M. Hobeck said he would have to visit the area to get a clear understanding of the area Comm. B. Atkinson is referring to. Comm. B. Atkinson said he is not sure if the Town would be responsible for the sign or the owner of the gas station. Comm. N. Terris noted that traffic has increased in the area significantly since the opening of the gas station. Chief Hobeck will look this and report back.

CROSSWALK ON FOORD AND ALLAN STREETS

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported a concerned citizen wrote a letter to Committee of the Whole (COW) re: the crosswalk at Foord Street and Jubilee Avenue. COW asked that the letter be forwarded to the Police Commission. S. Higdon read the letter aloud. The citizen would like to see flashing lights put up similar to those at the post office crosswalk. S. Higdon told members that a study would be required first to determine if lights are necessary, and if deemed necessary, it would be brought to budget. Comm. B. Atkinson reported seeing a number of close-call incidents at this crosswalk.

CROSSWALK ON FOORD AND UNION STREETS

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported the Committee of the Whole is asking the traffic authority and town engineer to consider placing a crosswalk on the corner of Foord and Union Streets. Andre's Seats has an outdoor patio deck and the sidewalk is detoured across in front of the library and across Jubilee Avenue. S. Higdon reported that pedestrians are tending to j-walk; to avoid this, COW is asking for the crosswalk. Chief M. Hobeck said he has spoken with the town engineer about the crosswalk and the possibility of putting the crosswalk right to the corner of Andre's Pizza. Comm. K. Mason said in the past he noticed a boarded wooden crosswalk going around the patio deck and questioned why that wasn't an option this year. Chief M. Hobeck explained that concerns were brought up from the Chief of the Fire Department last year that the fire truck could not make a left

turn onto Foord Street from Jubilee Avenue because of the extended deck out into the roadway – a hazard to the public.

Chief M. Hobeck noted having a concern with the entrance to the pharmacy parking lot on the corner by Andre's but felt with the cooperation from the pharmacy owner it could be remedied.

OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. D. MacGillivray asked for an update on computers for police vehicles. Comm. K. Mason reported making a couple phone calls after a discussion with the Chief M. Hobeck. He wasn't able to follow-up on those calls as he was away. Now that he is back, he will be able to follow-up and have another discussion soon with the Chief. Chief M. Hobeck said ultimately, we are going to have to decide what we want and what is important to us if we are using computers in our vehicles.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is scheduled for September 9, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Comm. B. Atkinson the meeting adjourned.

The Commission then sat for an in-camera meeting.

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK