

**April 7, 2022**

**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

### **MEETING**

A regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 2:30 pm in Council Chambers.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman B. Knight, Comms D. MacGillivray, N.Terris, K. Mason, S. Campbell and Chief of Police M. Hobeck. Also present, CAO S. Higdon, Inspector C. Pond and Dispatch Supervisor M. Thibeau.

### **AGENDA**

CAO S. Higdon stated that in regards to item 5 on the Agenda, (Course Report- Conflict Resolution), Officers were not available at this time and the item will be moved to May's meeting.

Comm. D. MacGillivray made a motion that the amended agenda be approved, seconded by Comm. N. Terris. **Motion Carried.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Comm. N. Terris made a motion to accept the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 Police Commission minutes, seconded by Comm. K. Mason. **Motion Carried.**

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

Comm. K. Mason asked for an update on the Police Bylaw. CAO S. Higdon stated that the first reading would be at the April Council meeting

### **Monthly Activity Report**

Chairman B. Knight asked if there were any questions on the submitted Activity Report. Comm D. MacGillivray stated that that he saw calls were remaining relatively high. Chief Hobeck stated that there was a small drop in January and February; however they were above 200 once again. S. Higdon stated that she wanted to note that The Safe Communities Report was attached to the Monthly Report. Chief Hobeck stated that most of the stats on that report were from a file that occurred on Foster Avenue in Stellarton. Chairman Knight asked Chief Hobeck the breakdown of The Pictou County Street Crime Unit. Chief Hobeck indicated that there was one Officer from Stellarton, one from Westville, two from the RCMP and two from New Glasgow. Chief Hobeck added that this unit was the second largest in the province. Chief Hobeck stated that Stellarton's Cst. Rideout wrote the Warrant for the incident on Foster and that his skills are developing by

being with this unit. Comm D. MacGillvray asked if all the firearms were recovered from the Foster Avenue incident. Chief Hobeck stated that all but one or two were. Chief Hobeck indicated that this unit is under review due to staffing concerns within the RCMP. Chairman Knight stated that this unit was doing a great job.

### **Approval of the Monthly Activity Report**

Comm. D. MacGillivray made a motion to accept the Monthly Activity Report for March 2022, seconded by Comm. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

### **Citizen Representative Term**

CAO S. Higdon indicated that there were four applications and stated that after the meeting the Police Commission would meet to make a recommendation to be taken before Town Council on Monday April 11<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Knight was pleased with the response as in the past it has been difficult to find interest.

### **Review Template-Agencies, Offices and Crown Corporations**

Chairman Knight had requested that this be on the agenda and indicated that they were looking for feedback. Chairman Knight requested that Commission review the document and report back at the next meeting. CAO S. Higdon noted that the review period had passed.

### **Police Dispatch Update**

Chief Hobeck reported that since the last meeting one of the new dispatchers had received their PROS training with one dispatcher left to be trained.

Chief Hobeck stated that two spares have been hired recently. Chairman Knight asked Dispatch Supervisor Mark Thibeau if he had anything to add. Mr. Thibeau stated that each trainee would require 100-120 hours of training and that this would be an investment; he felt they are good candidates. Chief Hobeck added it will be good to have a backup in dispatch. Comm. K. Mason asked if any more dispatchers are to be hired. Chief Hobeck indicated that they were not at this time.

## **STELLARTON POLICE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

- a) Modern Facility- S. Higdon reported that there was no update at this time.
- b) Develop Volunteer Programs- Chief Hobeck reported that the Youth Corp was going well and that Sgt. Veenhuis was planning a bike rodeo .Comm. K. Mason stated the Masonic Lodge is looking to make a donation pending approval. Chairman Knight asked if any other organizations had been

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION

April 7, 2022

STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

approached in regards to donations. Comm. S. Campbell asked how many members were in the Youth Corp. Chief Hobeck indicated that there were 8-10. Chairman Knight stated that the Commission would like to send along their appreciation to Sgt. Veenhuis.

- c) Upgrade and Develop Technology- Chief Hobeck stated a few computers will need to be replaced and is hoping that by the end of the year all full time officers will have their own body cams. CAO S. Higdon stated that the new IT provider is on site weekly to transition.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 12th, 2022 at 230 p.m. CAO S. Higdon stated that this meeting was moved to the second Thursday of the month for May as Chief Hobeck will be away at a conference.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Comm. K. Mason, the meeting was adjourned.