

October 13, 2022

MEETING

A regular scheduled meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 2:30 pm in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Chairman B. Knight, Comm. N. Terris, Comm. P. Kay, Comm. D. MacGillivray, Comm. P. Lloyd, Also present: Chief M. Hobeck and CAO S. Higdon.

Regrets

Comm S. Campbell & K. Mason (technical issues via zoom)

AGENDA

Comm N. Terris made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Comm D. MacGillivray. **Motioned Carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Comm P. Kay made a motion that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Comm. N. Terris. **Motion Carried.**

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORTS

This includes the Monthly Activity Reports for July, August and September.

Comm. N. Terris made a motion to accept the Monthly Activity Reports for July, August and September 2022, seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. **Motion Carried**

MEDIA RELEASE

Chief Hobeck reported that there was media release on October 7th 2022 by the New Glasgow Regional Police regarding a joint forces investigation between New Glasgow Regional Major Crime Unit ,the Stellarton Police Service, the Pictou County Street Crime Unit and the RCMP Emergency Response Team, as they participated in executing an arrest warrant on an address on Foord Street. A male was arrested and is facing charges. There will be an update from the Stellarton Police Service forthcoming regarding more charges.

Comm. D. MacGillivray asked why the male suspect was named in the release, but the female was not. Chief Hobeck replied that at the time of the release an Information had been filed with the Court for the male, but the Information was filed for the female shortly after the media release.

DISPATCH UPDATE

Chief Hobeck introduced dispatcher Megan Burns to give the Police Commission a brief update on dispatch. Ms. Burns reported that there were some personnel changes, and that dispatch currently consists of three full time dispatchers and one new trainee who will be starting on her own October 15th. Ms. Burns also reported that there was recently a meeting with her, Chief Hobeck and CAO S. Higdon along with one or two representatives from each of the remaining six fire departments. Ongoing issues with the use of several dispatch centers dispatching for the area were discussed. Dispatching issues with the loss of towers during Hurricane Fiona were also discussed.

CHIEF'S COMMENDATION

Chief Hobeck presented dispatcher Megan Burns with a Commendation for her exceptional work involving training in dispatch as well as her work with the local Fire Chiefs. Chief Hobeck reported that Megan had created a training manual for new dispatchers and had done an exceptional job during Hurricane Fiona, as there were several dispatch complications during the storm. After her shift that day she spent the night in the woods searching for a lost young boy with the local Search and Rescue Team. Megan thanked the Chief for the honor. Chairman B. Knight thanked Megan for her work not only in dispatch, but the surrounding communities. Comm. D. MacGillivray expressed his appreciation to Megan for her contributions and added that this was the first individual commendation that the Police Commission had seen.

CORESSPONDENCE

CAO S. Higdon reported that correspondence had been received from the Department of Justice on September 20th regarding the additional officer program. CAO S. Higdon stated that the program had recently been re-evaluated and is proposing a new foundational structure and no final decision had yet been made and that input and advice were being sought. Fewer teams, but comparable or more officers would be appointed to the SCU teams. This program would still be 100% funded by the Province.

MUNICIPAL POLICING

Chief Hobeck reported on the recent meeting with Chiefs of Police and stated that more would be discussed "in camera". Chief Hobeck stated the meeting involved discussion involving the issues in the letter from the Department of Justice.

PARKING – CORNER OF PLEASANT AND BRIDGE

CAO S. Higdon stated that Comm. S. Campbell had requested that this item be on the agenda, however Comm. S. Campbell unfortunately had to send her regrets and that the item would be tabled at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING November 10th 2022 at 2:30pm

ADJOURNEMENT Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm

CAO

CHAIRPERSON