

March 2, 2023

STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A regular scheduled meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 2:30 pm in Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Chairman B. Knight, Comm D. MacGillivray, Comm S. Campbell, Comm. P. Kay, Comm P. Lloyd, Chief M. Hobeck, Insp. C. Pond and CAO S. Higdon.

AGENDA

Chairman Knight asked for one item to be added to the agenda, that being a representative to the NSAPG Conference and added this item would be item 6 (a). Comm P. Kaye made a motion that the agenda be approved. Seconded by Comm S. Campbell.

Motioned Carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Comm D. MacGillivray made a motion that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Comm. P. Lloyd. **Motion Carried.**

Business Arising from the Minutes.

There was no business arising.

Monthly Activity Report

Comm D. MacGillivray thanked the Chief and the Officers for the enforcement of parking within the town. Chairman Knight stated that they had not received any complaints about the enforcement. Chairman Knight asked for a motion to approve the monthly activity report. A motion was made by Comm S. Campbell to approve the report. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. **Motion Carried**

Correspondence- Maxine Mann

Ms. Mann thanked Chief Hobeck for the great service of two Police Officers who had attended the school on February 16th. They had attended on that date to assist them with a student. Ms. Mann added that the officers showed great compassion to the student and sensitivity to the campus as a whole. The two officers that attended were Cst. Gabe Vandergrift and Cst. Braeden Williams. Chairman B. Knight asked for a motion that a letter be sent from the Commission to these two officers and that these letters be placed

in their files. Comm P. Lloyd made a motion that this be completed. Seconded by Comm P. Kaye. **Motion Carried**

YTD Police Budget

CAO S. Higdon stated that currently the Police Budget was at 75% YTD. CAO Higdon added that she, along with the Chief and Finance are currently looking at the operation budget and that she would have something for the next Police Commission meeting.

Comm S. Campbell stated that she had noticed a large increase in Legal and Prosecution fees. Chief Hobeck responded that fees have close to doubled recently and explained that a charge of \$675 + tax is charged by the prosecution lawyer per appearance in Court. Chairman Knight stated that he wished that the Town would see a higher percentage of the fine amounts.

Comm D. MacGillivray questioned the Chief regarding Salaries and Wages being over about 5% and higher than the previously year and was wondering why this would be. Chief Hobeck replied that the overages were in trying to fill shifts, as well as the number of calls and the type of calls. Chief Hobeck added there were some individuals off sick as well. Chief Hobeck also stated that they were looking at changes in service delivery to keep the costs down going forward.

Chairman B. Knight asked whether the department were reusing uniforms. Chief Hobeck stated that they were and that in the last couple years he had asked what and why items need to be replaced and that they have been trying to get a little more out of what they have. Chairman B. Knight asked for a motion to accept the Budget Report. Comm D. MacGillivray made a motion to accept the report. Seconded by Comm S. Campbell. **Motion Carried**

Citizen Representation

CAO S. Higdon stated that with the resignation of Comm Nancy Terris, an ad had been placed in the paper and on social media, as per the Town's policy, for her replacement. A previous member, Don Taylor was the sole applicant. Chairman Knight stated that he thought Mr. Taylor was a good choice and had no problem recommending Mr. Taylor, adding that he was very dedicated to the Commission when he was a member previously. Chairman Knight asked for a motion to recommend Mr. Taylor be a member of the Commission. Comm S. Campbell made a motion recommending Don Taylor. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. **Motion Carried**. CAO S. Higdon stated that this would be on Council's agenda for the March 13th meeting.

NSPAG Conference

Chairman B. Knight stated that in the past, a representative from the Commission attended the NSPAG Conference. Chairman Knight asked if anyone would be interested in going to this conference. Current members were not available to attend, the invitation will be extended to the other commission members.

Additional Issues

- 1/ Comm P. Lloyd voiced a concern with parking at 145 North Foord Street (Bubble Tree), as customers were parking on the sidewalk.

- 2/ Comm P. Lloyd asked about the downed Yield sign on the rotary. CAO S. Higdon stated that this sign was the responsibility of the Province.

- 3/ Comm P. Lloyd also asked if the traffic sign could be posted on MacGregor Avenue around the time of the school bus rounds, as there are many individuals speeding during this time period. Chief Hobeck stated that additional patrols will be added in this area. Chairman Knight stated that he would like to see additional traffic signs purchased in the coming years.

- 4/ Comm S. Campbell asked Chief Hobeck if larger "Children Playing" signs were being looked into for Auburn Avenue. Chief Hobeck indicated they were.

Next Meeting March 30th, 2023, at 2:30pm

Adjourn Meeting adjourned by Mayor MacGillivray