



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mills Room, Centennial Library
54 Church Street, St. Catharines

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 8:45 a.m.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. L. Iggulden, Chair
Mr. D. Martin, Vice Chair
Mr. V. Badawey
Mr. B. Bentley
Mr. B. Smeaton
Mr. L. Tufford
Mr. M. Woodhouse

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chief of Police W.E. Southall
Deputy Chief of Police D. Moody, Field & Patrol Services
Deputy Chief of Police G. Beaulieu, Ops Support & Business Services
Superintendent G. Dagenais, Patrol Services
Superintendent D. Kane, Emergency & Investigative Support Services
Superintendent D. Parrent, Field Services
A/Superintendent R. Coulis, Executive Services
Inspector B. Eckhardt, #2 District
Inspector J. Matthews, Policing Standards
S/Sergeant D. D'Amico, Casino Patrol
Sergeant J. Maggiolo, Ex. Officer, Field & Patrol
Sergeant M. McAllister, Issuer of Licences
Mr. A. Gladwish, A/Director/Consultant, Information & Communication
Technology
Ms. M. George, A/Director, Business Services
Ms. M. Alexander, Manager, Human Resources
Ms. D. Stevenson, Manager, IS
Ms. L. DiDonato-DeChellis, A/Manager Finance

Sergeant P. DiSimoni, President, NRPA

Ms. D. Morton, Executive Director
Ms. S. Taylor, Executive Assistant

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST

APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD

119. **Reappointment to Police Services Board – Order in Council – Lawrence Tufford**
The Board considered Order in Council No. 1303/2006 dated June 22, 2006 reappointing Mr. Lawrence Tufford as a member of the Police Services Board for a period of three years, effective June 18, 2006.

Chair Iggulden offered Member Tufford congratulations on behalf of the Board.

Moved by: D. Martin
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

That the information be received.

Carried.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

105. Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Friday, May 26, 2006.

Moved by: B. Bentley
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Friday, May 26, 2006 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

REPORTS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Chair Iggulden reported the following:

Ontario Association of Police Services Boards 'Queen's Park Day'

On May 30 Vice Chair Doug Martin represented the Board at the OAPSB 'Queen's Park Day' held at the legislature in Toronto. Police Services Boards from across Ontario attended the full-day 'lobby' event to promote the OAPSB as a stakeholder with the provincial government to address key policing issues.

Auxiliary Graduation Ceremony

On June 1 Chair Iggulden, Vice Chair Martin and Larry Tufford attended the NRPS Auxiliary Recruit Graduation ceremony to welcome 12 new auxiliary officers to the Service.

Ridgeway Ambulance Station – Official Opening

On June 26 Vice Chair Martin attended the official opening of the Ambulance Station on Gorham Road in Ridgeway.

July Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, July 27, in Committee Room #1, St. Catharines City Hall.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

- Licencing Committee – July 13 at 8:30 a.m., Chief's boardroom;
- Human Resources Committee – July 13 at 9:30 a.m., Chief's boardroom;
- Finance Committee – July 25 at 8:30 a.m., Chief's boardroom;

Chief of Police W.E. Southall – Employment Contract Extension

On an annual basis, Chair Iggulden reported that Chief Southall's employment contract was reviewed recently. Chief Southall's original contract was for a four-year period with a one-year option and had an expiration date of December 31, 2009.

Chair Iggulden expressed his pleasure to announce, on behalf of the Board and Chief Southall that the Chief's contract has been extended to March 31, 2012.

Chair Iggulden continued that Chief Southall has exceeded the Board's expectations in both the administrative and operational issues facing the Service. In addition her leadership of the Service has been outstanding. For a Chief to make positive change it takes time and it takes the support of the Board.

The Chief's contract provides her with both of these items.

REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Southall reported the following:

Chief of Police – Employment Contract Extension

The Chief thanked the Board for the extension to her employment contract.

Reappointment of Board Member Larry Tufford

Chief Southall congratulated Board Member Larry Tufford on the occasion of his three-year reappointment to the Board, essential to the Board's continuity.

Resignation – Marie Alexander, Manager, Human Resources

Ms. Marie Alexander, Manager of NRPS Human Resources, was thanked for her positive contributions to the complexities of the Service over the past four years of her tenure, and wished success in her future goals. Ms. Alexander is returning to Saskatchewan.

Chair Iggulden, on behalf of the Board, added best wishes and thanked Ms. Alexander for her contributions in the past and for future career paths.

2006 Homicide Stats

Statistics indicate the current total as of June 29 at 4 compared to 7 for the same period 2005.

Fourth Homicide – Niagara Falls

On May 28 a male in medical distress was found on Victoria Avenue, Niagara Falls. The Brampton resident was pronounced dead at the hospital and cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head received following an altercation. Two Niagara residents were arrested for second degree murder on

May 29.

Niagara Region Suicide Prevention Strategy Launch

On June 2 the Niagara Region Suicide Prevention Coalition unveiled its Prevention Strategy developed with input from community focus groups and agencies, focusing through awareness and education, intervention with people at risk and provides assistance to survivors and loved ones. The coalition was formed in 2003 due to the increase of suicides in the Region, and has grown to include over 25 agencies with representatives from a number of community agencies, health, education and law enforcement.

Prostitution Sweep – St. Catharines

The NRPS conducted a prostitution sweep in the Queenston Street area of St. Catharines resulting in arrests of 12 females for prostitution related offences.

Task Force Announces Additional 1st Degree Murder Charge

The NRPS has laid an additional charge of first degree murder on Michael Durrant for his alleged involvement in the homicide of Diane Christina Dimitri whose body was discovered August 9, 2003 in a ditch on Darby Road, Welland.

No Terrorist Training Camp in Fort Erie

The NRPS has reported that recent media reports relating to the Toronto terrorist-related arrests and terrorist training in Fort Erie were inaccurate, and the Service has confirmed that neither Fort Erie nor any other Niagara location was ever used for terrorist training.

6th Annual 'Sirens For Life' Blood Donor Challenge

The NRPS is participating with fire, EMS and St. John Ambulance personnel in the 6th Annual 'Sirens for Life' blood donor challenge during the month of July 2006.

District 5 - Fort Erie Liquor Licence Blitz

On June 16-17, 5 District conducted a pre-summer liquor licence blitz with the assistance of Fort Erie Fire Department and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario in conjunction with the *Safe Summer Program*. Of the 18 establishments inspected, a number of minor liquor and fire violations warnings were issued, however, no under-age drinking infractions were discovered.

Traffic Safety - Speeding – Niagara Falls

Chief Southall introduced Inspector Brian Eckhardt, 2 District Commander, and S/Sergeant Dan D'Amico, O/C, Casino Patrol Unit, to address the Board respecting one of the Niagara Falls traffic issues raised by Member Smeaton at the March 30, 2006 Board meeting.

Mr. Smeaton reported that Inspector Eckhardt and S/Sgt. D'Amico have been very helpful with the traffic situation, specifically at the top of Clifton Hill and Victoria Avenue. This area provides an inflexible situation with major holiday weekends presenting severe traffic congestion. The Clifton Hill BIA group has requested help, the best location for visible presence. A meeting was held June 22 with the BIA group, S/Sgt. D'Amico, former Mayor Wayne Thompson and Mr. Smeaton, where S/Sgt D'Amico was most tactful in the situation. The intersection requires future improvements, and Niagara Falls City Council has agreed this week to fund an experimental officer deployment to determine the results on a two-shift basis, a temporary situation. This is not an easy public relations situation, but it has been handled very well – a major step in the right direction.

Mr. Smeaton added that that City has scheduled the improvements for consultation and design in 2007 and construction in 2008, but the project may be moved up.

Inspector Eckhardt reported that there are ongoing discussions with City officials and the BIA, and all acknowledge the ultimate solution is the complete reconstruction of the intersection which is to be accelerated. The BIA wants a temporary fix, and it is felt that the best solution is an officer or two working at the top of Clifton Hill, however, that alternative may cause problems at other intersections. The Chief has approved the use of two special duty officers on a test basis as requested by Council for the periods 3:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. for the July 1 weekend. The Service will assess the situation to see if problems are alleviated. There has been great cooperation with the City and the BIA in that area.

Costs for the special duty officers will be paid by the Clifton Hill BIA.

NRPS Organization - A/Director of Business Services, A/Manager of Finance

Chief Southall introduced Ms. Monika George who has been named the A/Director of Business Services, and Ms. Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis who becomes the A/Manager of Finance, for the balance of 2006.

PRESENTATIONS

DEPUTATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

106. Canadian Association of Police Boards

The Board considered *CAPB Bulletin* dated May 17, 2006 providing the Board with information relative to the May 4 introduction of two pieces of federal legislation: Bill C-9 proposing to end the use of conditional sentences including house arrest for serious offences, and Bill C-10 which proposes to toughen sentencing for serious gun offences with a system of escalating penalties for both 'use' offences (use of a firearm in the commission of an offence) and 'non-use' offences (trafficking and smuggling in firearms). (*Copies of Bill C-9 and Bill C-10 are retained on file in the Board office.*)

107. Ontario Association of Police Services Boards

The Board considered a letter dated May 31, 2006 from Bernie Morelli, President, OAPSB, acknowledging the Board's financial support toward the OAPSB's successful 44th Annual General Meeting and Conference held in Halton, and providing the May 2006 edition of the OAPSB *Bulletin Board* featuring a detailed synopsis of the May 2006 Conference and other relevant items of interest in provincial policing.

108. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CSC 7-2006 May 25, 2006**

The Board considered a letter dated May 25, 2006 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, providing the Board with the decisions of the Region's Corporate and Financial Services Committee that the following communications be received:

CS 37-2006	(May 3, 2006) Purchasing – CAD Maintenance Support;
CS 38-2006	(May 3, 2006) NRPS Uniform Patrol Vehicle Emergency Equipment;
CS 39-2006	(May 3, 2006) NRPS Vehicle Purchases – Technological Crime Unit;
CS 40-2006	(May 3, 2006) NRPS Purchasing – Additional Senior Officer Vehicle;
CS 41-2006	(May 3, 2006) Project Initiation PO0610 – Remote Mobile Investigator (Bomb Robot).

109. **Women's Place of South Niagara Inc.**

The Board considered a letter dated May 24, 2006 from Ruthann Brown, Executive Director, acknowledging the Board's support at the 'Friend' level toward the 25th anniversary celebration of the Welland shelter, and further, inviting the Board's participation in the June 30 Anniversary celebration at Club Richelieu in Welland.

110. **NRPS Auxiliary Recruitment**

The Board considered Service report 121/2006 dated June 2, 2006 providing the Board with an overview of the recent recruitment initiative by the Human Resources and Auxiliary supervisory staff which resulted in the June 6 induction by Justice Carolyn A. Straughan of 12 new Auxiliary officers.

111. **Annual Report – Officer Note Taking**

The Board considered Service report 118/2006 dated May 24, 2006 providing the Board with information relating to the procedural compliance to the Provincial Adequacy Standard Regulation LE-022, *Officer Note Taking*, involving the maintenance of accurate and complete daily notes by officers, prescribed retention and destruction of the duty books, and the budgeted costs of the program, pursuant to Board By-law 214-2000.

112. **Special Fund – May 2006**

The Board considered Service report 122/2006 dated June 15, 2006 providing the Board with the activities within the Special Fund for the period of May 1-31, 2006.

Moved by:	M. Woodhouse
Seconded by:	B. Bentley

That the information be received.

Carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

113. **NRPS Variance Report – to May 31, 2006**

The Board considered Service report 135/2006 dated June 20, 2006 providing the Board with a financial overview and forecast for both the Service and the Board to May 31, 2006.

Chief Southall reported that there are no significant areas of concern at this time. The analysis of overtime expense will be included in next month's report, and expenditures related to the SPIRIT implementation may be offset with the capital project budget.

Ms. George indicated that a snap shot of capital projects has been included with recommendations of closure for several projects, a snap shot of reserves at year end, and the forecast the expenditures show as essentially unfunded revenue and are shown where they should offset the \$1.1 million. There are the timing issues with monthly allocations, and budgeted transfer may occur only with approvals from the Board and Council.

Moved by: D. Martin
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

That the Board:

- 1. Receive the Variance and Forecast overview for information;**
- 2. And further, approve the closure of Capital Project PO0309, 2003 Radio System Infrastructure and Equipment and transfer the remaining revenues of \$4,042.87 to the Police Capital Levy;**
- 3. And further, approve the closure of PO0301, 2003 IT Equipment Replacement, and PO0303, Data Entry/Live Scan Mugshot Upgrades and request that the Region write off the unfunded debt.**

Carried.

114. **Purchasing – Motorola Service Agreement – Infrastructure Data Radio System Equipment**

The Board considered Service report 133/2006 dated June 14, 2006 requesting the Board approve the quotation from Motorola to cover the current year of maintenance support for hardware specific to the Motorola data radio infrastructure which provides communication hardware and network for the Mobile Data Terminals with access to CAD, RMS and CPIC for front-line officers, period June 1 through to May 31, 2007, at a cost of \$31,065.30 plus taxes, funding budgeted in 7412-1804.

Moved by: D. Martin
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the Board approve the attached quotation from Motorola for maintenance of the Mobile Data Radio Infrastructure in the amount of \$31,065.30 plus applicable taxes, funds budgeted in Information Systems account Repair and Maintenance 7412-1804.

Carried.

115. **Municipal Health & Safety Association Audit**

The Board considered Service report 120/2006 dated June 9, 2006 requesting the Board approve an audit of Service policies and procedures by the Municipal Health and Safety Association with respect to internal safety management processes including staff interviews and random physical site inspections toward the production of a prioritized action plan to assist the Service to reach excellence in health and safety, a positive step in risk management, at an estimated cost of \$16,500.

Moved by: B. Bentley
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the information be received;

And further, that the Board approve an audit by the Municipal Health and Safety Association.

Carried.

116. **Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police – 2008 Conference**

The Board considered Service report 119/2006 dated June 15, 2006 requesting the Board approve the Niagara Regional Police Service to host the 2008 Annual Conference of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police in Niagara with significant organizational and financial input.

Moved by: B. Smeaton
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the Board approve the Niagara Regional Police Service to host the 2008 OACP Annual Conference.

Carried.

117. **Canadian Association of Police Boards 17th Annual Conference**

The Board considered a letter dated May 19, 2006 from Lynne Kennedy, President, providing an invitation and conference package for members to attend the CAPB's 17th Annual General Meeting and Conference in Edmonton from August 16 – 19, 2006, the theme of which will be '*Community Policing*'.

Moved by: L. Tufford
Seconded by: M. Woodhouse

That the information be received;

And further, that any Board member wishing to attend advise the Board's Executive Director.

Carried.

118. **Donation – Brain Injury Association of Niagara**

The Board considered a memorandum dated June 1, 2006 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, providing the Board with a letter from Ms. Pat Dracup, Program Director, Brain Injury Association of Niagara, requesting a donation to support the *Santa Sober Sleigh* Campaign for 2006.

Moved by: D. Martin
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the information be received;

And further, that the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Special Fund to the Brain Injury Association of Niagara in support of the 2006 Santa's Sober Sleigh Campaign.

Carried.

IN-CAMERA REPORTS

C.
132.
2006

NRPS Digital Video Recording (DVR) Project

At the Confidential Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board held on Friday, May 26, 2006, the Board considered Service report C.107/2006 dated May 5, 2006 requesting the Board approve the initiation of capital project ZPO0614 (DVR recording System) for the procurement and implementation of DVR systems for the cell security areas in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls and Welland to replace the elderly video recording on time-lapsed VCR's and cameras recording to VHS tape as the latter technology becomes obsolete. (Item referred to the Board for consideration by the Finance Committee at its May 24 meeting.)

The following Motion was duly passed:

"That the Board approve:

- 1. Initiation of Capital Project ZPO0614 (DVR Recording System) with an expenditure budget of up to \$100,000 to be funded by the Police Capital Levy;***
- 2. The transfer of previously committed funds for the DVR Project from the Vehicles and Equipment Reserve Fund in the amount of \$100,000 to ZPO0614 and equivalent increase in the Project expenditure budget;***
- 3. Approval to purchase from Design Electronics in the amount of \$161,309.06 plus applicable taxes for the Pelco DVR system,***
- 4. And further, that the Board's decision be reported back on the public agenda.***

Carried."

Moved by: M. Woodhouse
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the information be received.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Chairperson

Executive Director