

**August 4, 2016**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

### **MEETING**

A special meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, August 4, 2016, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman Don Taylor, Comms. J. MacLellan, S. Lawand, A. Pearson, J. Langlois and K. Francis. Also present Town Clerk J. Eaton, Mayor J. Gennoe, Police Chief D. Hussher.

### **AGENDA**

Comm. S. Lawand moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Comm. A. Pearson.  
**Motion Carried.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Comm. K. Francis made a motion to approve the June 16, 2016 minutes, seconded by Comm. J. Langlois. **Motion Carried.**

Chairman Don Taylor informed Commission Members that Nola Folker-Hill passed away suddenly this morning. She was a councillor in Kentville for several years and was the Vice President in charge of N.S. Association of Police Governances.

### **CHIEF D. HUSSHER: MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

Chief D. Hussher's Monthly Activity Report will be available at the September meeting.

### **JOHN KELLOCK PRESENTATION: DOG INCIDENT – VALLEY WOODS (THE POND)**

Town Resident John Kellock spoke to Commission Members on a vicious dog incident that took place in the Town on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kellock told Members that he had been walking his niece's Jack Russell Terrier in a park in Valley Woods when it was attacked by a larger dog. The larger dog was not on a leash. Mr. Kellock said the attack on the small dog was unprovoked. As a result of the attack, the small dog's rib cage was crushed and its lungs punctured. The small dog later died as a result of its injuries. The Animal Control Officer, John Fillier was called. He arrived on the scene after the incident took place. Mr. Kellock said there is now fear by area residents for their children playing in the vicinity of the attack and residents are nervous and afraid to walk their dogs in the park. Mr. Kellock would like to see something done to protect citizens and their dogs from these types of attacks.

Chairman Don Taylor said the Commission will see what the legalities are and where the investigation is at this time and report back to Mr. Kellock.

Comm. S. Lawand echoed Mr. Kellock's concerns because he too lives in the area and has a small dog that he and his daughter walk in the same park.

Chief D. Hussher said the investigation is in the hands of the Animal Control Officer. Chief D. Hussher will supervise the file between the Animal Control Officer and the Crown to make sure it is handled properly. Chief D. Hussher added that the owner of the larger dog is remorseful.

Chief D. Hussher said in looking at the Town of Stellarton's Dog Bylaw as it stands today, it doesn't permit a Police Officer to put the dog down unless the attack is

happening in front of a Police Officer. He said once the dog is contained by its owner, the legal process has to be followed to put the dog down.

Chief D. Hussher told Members that he prepared a research paper on similar circumstances a number of years ago that he presented to Westville Council as a result of several dog attacks in the Town. He said as a result, Westville did amend their Dog Bylaw. The Dog Bylaw in the Town of Westville gives the Animal Control Officer the power to issue written orders for containment and muzzle use for fierce and dangerous dogs. He will email the research paper to Town Clerk, J. Eaton to forward to Commission Members and Council.

Chief D. Hussher said whatever Council decides to do as a result to this incident, he would recommend that Council be very careful, follow the research and work with the Town Solicitor and get a Town Bylaw in place that gives some authority the Animal Control Officer needs to do his/her job.

Commission Members were in agreement to have Chief D. Hussher make this recommendation to Council. Town Clerk, J. Eaton stated that if the Commission is going to have the Police Chief make this recommendation to Council, she would like to have the Police Chief present at that meeting to keep all of Council with the same information. Chief D. Hussher had no problem with this.

#### **CHIEF D. HUSSHER: INTERVIEW COMMITTEE FOR OFFICER REPLACEMENT**

Chief D. Hussher reported that Constable S. Maddison was successful in his bid for the RCMP. His resignation is effective August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

Chief D. Hussher recommended the Commission proceed with the Selection Committee to hire another fulltime Police Officer now that Constable S. Maddison has officially resigned. The position has been advertised. Several applications were received. Applications have also been received from the two term Police Officers that are with the Stellarton Police Department. Chief D. Hussher would like to have the position filled by August 22<sup>nd</sup>, so the Department is not left with a void that creates too much overtime.

Comm. S. Lawand expressed an interest in sitting on the Selection Committee. After some discussion it was determined that Comm. S. Lawand, J. Langlois, K. Francis, Chairman Don Taylor, Police Chief D. Hussher and a Union Representative will sit on the committee.

Chief D. Hussher will prepare information packages of all the applicants and the interview questions.

Chief D. Hussher noted that the current Union Representative for the Police Department is retiring in the near future. A replacement is being trained to fill that position.

#### **CHIEF D. HUSSHER: VEHICLE LEASE TENDERS – OCTOBER**

Tenders for 2016 Police vehicle were sent out July 18<sup>th</sup> and closed August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4 p.m. Tenders were sent to Highland Ford, Atlantic Dodge and Dartmouth Dodge. Two tenders were received from Dartmouth Dodge and Atlantic Dodge. A detailed list of tender prices from both dealerships is attached.

A lengthy discussion took place. Chief D. Hussher felt a 48-month lease is too long a lease for a police SUV. He also felt the Department did not have enough experience

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with the new truck to recommend it and the only difference between the SUVs was V6/V8. He felt the only sure route was the Dodge Charger with Dartmouth Dodge.

Comm. A. Pearson asked if the vehicle could be serviced locally if purchased at Dartmouth Dodge. Chief D. Hussher said yes.

Comm. J. Langlois moved that we proceed with Dartmouth Dodge, Option #4, 2016 Dodge Charger AWD 5.7 V8 seconded by Comm. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

#### **ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. on motion by Comm. S. Lawand seconded by Comm. K. Francis **Motion Carried.**

**CHAIRMAN**

**TOWN CLERK**