

November 2, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

Chairman D. Taylor, Comms. J. Langlois, E. Cormier, S. Lawand, D. MacGillivray, and A. Pearson. Also present, Chief D. Hussher and Town Clerk J. Eaton.

Regrets were received from Comm. B. Knight.

AGENDA

Comm. J. Langlois approved the Agenda as read, seconded by Comm. S. Lawand.
Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. S. Lawand made a Motion to approve the October 5, 2017 Minutes as amended, seconded by Comm. D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

CHIEF D. HUSSHER: MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: OCTOBER 2017

Chief D. Hussher presented the Activity Report for the month of October 2017.

Comm. S. Lawand spoke on the email attached to the report re: dog complaint. He felt from reading the email that the resident is doing everything the SPCA has asked of them. Chief D. Hussher confirmed this. He said the SPCA is satisfied with the situation and the Dog Control Officer says the dogs have the proper living facilities. Chief D. Hussher said he can contact the complainant and explain to them that the SPCA is satisfied with the health of the dogs and living conditions. In relation to noise, Chief D. Hussher said Police Officers sat in their patrol cars and listened (on different occasions) throughout day and did not notice any consistent barking. Comm. S. Lawand asked Chief D. Hussher to forward a copy of the attached email to him.

Added Items to Report:

Chief D. Hussher reported Inspector C. Pond and Sgt. H. Dunbar attended a week long Audit Training Course put on by the Province of Nova Scotia. As an exercise, the candidates conducted audits in the Towns of Stellarton, Westville, New Glasgow and Truro. The Town of Stellarton was audited for exhibits and passed. A couple of recommendations came out of the audit: 1. A camera in the exhibit area, 2. Observation: no cold storage in exhibit area for biological exhibits. A fridge was suggested for temporary storage, and 3. Training for the exhibit custodian.

Comm. S. Lawand asked if we have a procedure in place that is followed for inmates that are intoxicated and/or similar situations. Chief D. Hussher confirmed this. Chief D. Hussher gave a detailed explanation on internal procedures pertaining to this question.

Comm. A. Pearson made a Motion to accept the Monthly Activity Report for October 2017, seconded by Comm. E. Cormier. **Motion Carried.**

CHIEF D. HUSSHER: UPDATE ON ITEMS FROM MINUTES

Chief D. Hussher updated Commission members on the Birch Street "no parking" sign situation. He reported speaking with most residents along the street; all residents were

in favor of removing the signs, except one resident who would like the no parking sign to remain in front of their property. Chief D. Hussher reported that Public Works staff will remove the signs and at the same time, put signs up at the intersections on Jubilee Avenue and Acadia Street (three cars back) that read "No Parking Here to Corner" so not to impede traffic at the intersections. Chief D. Hussher said residents that live near the intersections have no problem with this.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO HIRING POLICY RELATING TO TERM POLICE OFFICERS

Town Clerk J. Eaton reported this topic was raised by the Police Commission and the proposed change that the Police Commission was considering only pertains to the hiring of term officers. She said if the Commission wishes to proceed to have that a Policy, then they would adopt that change and make a recommendation to Town Council to accept the recommendation.

A discussion took place. Comm. S. Lawand was okay with the recommendation as long as the recruiting team was able to re-advertise if it was beneficial to do so.

It was then moved by Comm. D. MacGillivray that the Commission recommend to Town Council the following proposed change to the Hiring Policy relating to Term Police Officers: top first, second and third candidates remain on the list for offer consideration if first or second candidate is not available or leaves employment prior to end of term - this action will be done prior to re-advertising and interviews. Advertisement and interviews will continue for new term police officer positions following a 90 day process. Seconded by Comm. J. Langlois. **Motion Carried.**

CHIEF D. HUSSHER: DRAFT DOG BY- LAW CHANGES

Chief D. Hussher presented Draft copy of the Dog By-Law with all proposed changes added. Chief D. Hussher recommended that members take the Draft, review it and be prepared to discuss it at the next Commission meeting and then recommend it to Council to adopt.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Comm. S. Lawand reported on four items:

1. He will be starting work in Antigonish and unsure if he will be able to make it to the next Commission meeting, but will try.
2. During a Planning Advisory Committee meeting he brought a request from a business in the business park asking for some signage. He would like to discuss this matter further with Chief H. Hussher or visit the site with the Chief to look and see what we can do for signage for the businesses.
3. He was approached by a member of the Lions Club regarding Service Club signage coming into the Town of Stellarton. He reported this item was discussed at a previous meeting and at that time it was felt that if we put signage up for one club we would have to do it for all clubs. He said there are only three Service Clubs within the town. He wants the Commission to revisit this issue because it was brought to his attention again. He does not think it is a bad idea. Comm. J. Langlois suggested members look at some of the examples in other communities. Members were in agreement. To be discussed further at the next Commission meeting.

4. It was brought to his attention that the budget for our Police Department has increased by 60%. He would like to understand if this number is correct. Town Clerk J. Eaton said the last five years expenses for our Police Department were given to all Council. She does not recall a 60% increase. J. Eaton will provide Comm. S. Lawand with the budget information.

Chair D. Taylor – reported on one item

1. He received several complaints regarding a man panhandling on Foord Street and being somewhat forceful with some seniors. Chief D. Hussher is aware of the situation. He stated that we have Protection of Property Act against the individual for Sobeys and a couple of other businesses along Foord Street; including both banks. The individual is staying away from those locations. Chief D. Hussher added that our Department is putting as many limitations on this individual as possible. Police Officers are keeping an eye on him as well.

Comm. J. Langlois – reported on one item

1. He reported on seeing “flashing stop signs” while visiting a town in Minnesota recently. He noted that the sign had a solar panel attached and was very effective. He thought Stellarton could use these signs in a couple of locations within the Town. Chief D. Hussher said a sign supplier would be able to get him information on that type of sign that he can have for the next Commission meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be December 7, 2017 at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Comm. S. Lawand the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. seconded by Comm. J. Langlois.

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION
November 5, 2017
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA