

**June 1, 2017**

**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

Chairman D. Taylor, Comms. B. Knight, J. Langlois, E. Cormier, D. MacGillivray, and A. Pearson. Also present, Chief D. Hussler and Town Clerk J. Eaton.

**AGENDA**

Comm. B.Knight approved the Agenda as read, seconded by Comm. A. Pearson  
**Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Comm. B. Knight made a motion to Approve the May 4, 2017 Minutes as amended, seconded by Comm. J. Langlois. **Motion Carried.**

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

Chief D. Hussler reviewed the Activity Report for the month of May 2017. A copy of the report is attached to form part of the Minutes.

Comm. D. MacGillivray made a Motion to accept the Monthly Activity Report for May 2017, seconded by Comm. E. Cormier. **Motion Carried.**

**CHIEF D. HUSSHER: FOORD STREET TRAFFIC CONCERNS**

Chief D. Hussler gave an update on Foord Street traffic concerns raised by business owners. Chief D. Hussler reported that he walked Foord Street with the Town Engineer and General Foreman outlining concerns/deficiencies and discussed the recommended changes needed. One of those recommendations included bump-outs; the placing barrels on both sides of the cross walk at the Post Office for a trial period, observe and see what it does with pedestrian traffic/motor vehicle traffic. If effective, the barrels would be removed and the area painted as a yellow island. Chief D. Hussler felt this should improve visibility and encroachment issues. If successful, he would like to see the islands at all crosswalks and intersections along Foord Street.

Chief D. Hussler reported that the Royal Bank approved the thru-way (exit) to the Town parking lot & Stellar Street. This will allow traffic from the Bank to come in and out of the Town's parking lot and proceed straight through to Stellar Street.

Comm. B. Knight commented on Halifax Councillors sending an application to the Provincial Government requesting the speed limit within the city be reduced to 40 klms. In response, Chief D. Hussler said the Traffic Authority can reduce the speed to 40 klms on Foord Street, but it is not enforceable.

Chair D. Taylor reported that the twisted/bent sign located at the Fast Fuel station nearest the roundabout, has not yet been replaced. Chief D. Hussler will remind Public Works staff to have this removed.

Comm. J. Langlois commented on noticing motorists running the amber light at the intersection by the Scotia Bank. On the side of safety, he would like to see a digital counter box activated on traffic lights if possible.

#### **CHIEF D. HUSSHER: UPDATE – TAXI BY-LAW**

Chief D. Hussher reported there was still some holdback from a couple municipal units. The Town of Pictou wanted a unified County Taxi By-law which is not enforceable. Chief D. Hussher reported that Pictou's CAO suggested getting legal advice on drafting a Taxi By-law for all six Municipal Units. The Chief reminded the Commission that his initial intent was to draft a Taxi By-law that the six Municipal Units agreed to and once complete, forward for legal opinion, not have lawyers draft the initial by-law. Chief D. Hussher reported that the County Warden R. Parker would like to see a copy of a draft Taxi By-law before bringing the issue to Council for consideration. The Town of New Glasgow would like to restrict taxis from other municipalities at special events within their town.

Chief D. Hussher asked for direction from the Commission.

A general discussion took place. Chair D. Taylor said as a Commission do we want to update our Taxi By-law to include a Clause for "Special Events". Chief D. Hussher noted that in researching taxi by-laws he came across a section in one that read "unless you are licensed by another municipality you cannot operate as a licensed taxi business within the city/town". Chief D. Hussher said this would solve Stellarton's problem.

Chief D. Hussher recommended that the Town of Stellarton move ahead and update the Town's Taxi By-law to include the clause "unless you are licensed by another municipality you cannot operate as a licensed taxi business within the Town of Stellarton". Once approved, have the County review for consideration.

Comm. J. Langlois moved the above recommendation seconded by Comm. A. Pearson.

On discussion on the motion, Comm. D. MacGillivray asked if the updated Taxi By-law is effective immediately. The Town Clerk, J. Eaton confirmed that if the updated by-law is going to replace the old by-law then it would first have to go to the Town's solicitor for legal opinion then Council for adoption; the old by-law would have to be repealed and the new updated by-law adopted. The Town Clerk added draft by-law would have first and second readings before it would become a Town of Stellarton by-law. **Motion Carried.**

It was then moved by Comm. J. Langlois, to forward the updated Taxi By-law for legal opinion once prepared, then present to Town Council for adoption, seconded by D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

#### **CHIEF D. HUSSHER: UPDATE DRAFT DOG BY-LAW**

Chief D. Hussher reported that all the recommended amendments that were brought forward by Commission members were made to the draft Dog By-law with the exception of the removal of the Section "Restricted". During his update, Chief D. Hussher recommended that this whole Section be removed from the By-law, noting that breed ban legislation is not going anywhere across the County. He explained that the Initial intent for updating the By-law was to get some control over fierce and dangerous dogs and to give our Dog Control Officer the authority to move in at the time of a bit and put restrictions on by way of Notice.

A lengthy discussion took place. Comm. E. Cormier read information collected Canada-Wide on dog by-laws. Discussion took place on the increase of fines. Breed banning was also discussed at length. Comm. A. Pearson would like to see the bylaw condensed; too lengthy.

Direction: Comm. E. Cormier will work with Chief D. Hussher after he returns from vacation - review the condensed version of the draft by-law, come to agreement on changes, forward to Town solicitor for legal opinion prior to the September Commission meeting.

### **CHIEF HUSSHER: UPDATE – INSPECTOR POSITION**

Chief D. Hussher reported that the competition for the 2IC Inspector Position is scheduled from June 20-23. There are five candidates. Chief D. Hussher reported that four hours has been set aside for each interview; each interview will be a minimum of three hours. It is hoped that the Selection Committee has a promotion recommendation shortly after the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Two officers will take the position of ICs while Chief D. Hussher is on vacation for two weeks: Week 1 Const. MacCulloch and Week 2 Const. Pond. Chief D. Hussher will be available by telephone. Comm. J. Langlois thinks this is a great idea.

### **DISCUSSION – CHANGE MEETING TIME**

This matter was deferred until the September meeting.

### **SUMMER RECESS: JULY AND AUGUST**

It was moved by Comm. J. Langlois to recess Police Commission meetings for the summer months and reconvene September 7, 2017 or earlier if an emergency meeting is needed, seconded by Comm. E. Cormier. **Motion Carried.**

### **TERM-OFFICER POSITION**

Chief D. Hussher reported one of Town's police officers is going in for two surgeries and could be off work 8 to 10 weeks following the second surgery. Possible term-officer needed to fill-in during this time. After some discussion, it was agreed to have Commissionaire, Mark Thibeau advertise for a term-officer to fill in for the officer that will be off recovering from surgery.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date will be September 7, 2017.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by D. MacGillivray the meeting adjourned at 6:40 seconded by Chair D. Taylor.

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION  
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