

February 1, 2018
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

A regular meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT

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

AGENDA

Comm. J. Langlois approved the Agenda as presented, seconded by Comm. A. Pearson. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. A. Pearson made a Motion to approve the January 4, 2018 Minutes, seconded by Comm. D. MacGillivray. **Motion Carried.**

Note (added by Chair D. Taylor) Reminder to Commission members to do their due diligence and use their microphone during meetings – to help staff do their job efficiently.

CHIEF D. HUSSHER: MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: JANUARY 2018

Chief D. Hussher presented the Activity Report for the month of January 2018. A short discussion took place.

The January 2018 Monthly Activity Report was then approved as presented on motion Comm. S. Lawand seconded by Comm. E. Cormier. **Motion Carried.**

RATIFY: TERM OFFICERS: KYLE CLARK AND TYLER SHIPLEY

Effective dates: January 29, 2018 to July 28, 2018

The Recruitment Committee interviewed seven applicants. All applicants were recent graduates of the Atlantic Police Academy. All candidates did well during the interview process. Chief D. Hussher recommended two officers to fill term positions in the Department: regular term officer, Tyler Shipley from Truro and casual term officer, Kyle Clark of Cape Breton.

Chief D. Hussher gave some background information on both officers. Kyle Clark is a 2011 graduate of the Atlantic Police Academy, while Tyler Shipley is a more recent graduate. Chief D. Hussher reported both officers performed well during training; adding that both officers are committed to their profession and are considered to be assets to the Department. Chief D. Hussher stated that Tyler Shipley will be our Street Crime Member; once Mr. Shipley goes to Street Crime, Kyle Clark will pick up some of the slack there. Chief D. Hussher said this will help alleviate some of the pressures the Department has with the Police Officers that have left the Department. Chief D. Hussher and Comm. B. Knight highly recommend both officers.

Comm. B. Knight moved to ratify the action of appointing Tyler Shipley and Kyle Clark as term officers effective, January 29, 2018. Seconded by Comm. A. Pearson. **Motion Carried.**

COMM. B. KNIGHT: FOOT PATROLS

Comm. B. Knight reported receiving a call from a concerned citizen. Concern: citizens do not know the Police Officers in our Department; they would like to get to know our officers better. The citizen felt foot patrol was a good start. Comm. B. Knight suggested a daytime foot patrol. He said in the past residents knew the Police Officers in town, now the concern is they do not. He reported that the resident also wondered if there were other ways to get the officers more familiar with the community besides foot patrols.

Chief D. Hussler stated that foot patrols dropped because the Department has been working on two major historic files; using a lot of the officers' time and post-Christmas there was a number of domestic disturbances. Chief D. Hussler will get patrols back up and get Police Officers out and into the businesses as well.

Comm. B. Knight suggested having officers visit the school to get as much visibility as they can. Chief D. Hussler stated that Const. P. Veenhuis currently does the DARE program at the schools.

Chief D. Hussler reported the Police Officers gave him a presentation that can be submitted for budget time for bike patrols - the officers would like to increase the patrols this summer and get their own bikes, suitable for patrols. Written submission will be passed on in March during budget preparations. Chief D. Hussler added there have been a lot of positive comments received regarding bike patrols along the Samson Trail. Residents appreciate bike patrols more as opposed to the patrol car.

Comm. J. Langlois strongly agreed with Comm. B. Knight that we should know more about our Police Officers. He asked if it was possible for Commission members to meet our officers. Chief D. Hussler did not see this being a problem. He stated that Commission Members are welcome to come along on ride-a-longs. Members are also welcome to come in to the Department at any time to meet Officers as well. Chief D. Hussler added that our Police Officers could be available for special occasions too.

OTHER BUSINESS: NEW TOWN OF STELLARTON WEBSITE

Chief D. Hussler commented that the video of Const. Veenhuis, on the new Town website, was great. He felt Const. Veenhuis did a wonderful job; proud of him. He pointed out that the Police Department lost their space on the website where they would post such things as: mission statement; bike patrol information; school programs; etc. He said he understands there is a limitation to what can go on the Town website but felt the Police Department needs a section on the website/or a website of their own and a link from the Town's website to post such information. Comm. D. MacGillivray will talk with Communications Director, P. Corbin and see if he can add a Police page to the Town's website. He will have P. Corbin connect with Const. P. Veenhuis.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be March 1, 2018 at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Comm. B. Knight the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. seconded by Comm. S. Lawand.

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION
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