

November 1 2018
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

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

PRESENT

Chairman D. Taylor, Comms. D. MacGillivray, E. Cormier, S. Campbell, J. Richardson, A. Pearson and Comm. B. Knight. Also present, Town Clerk S. Higdon, Police Chief D. Hussher and Inspect. C. Pond.

AGENDA

Comm. D. MacGillivray approved the Agenda, seconded by Comm. E. Cormier with the addition of one item: Halloween. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. B. Knight made a motion to accept the October 4, 2018 Police Commission minutes, seconded by Comm. E. Cormier. **Motion Carried.**

A. Pearson pointed out that he was absent from the October meeting, he did send regrets.

SWEARING IN – COUNCILLOR CAMPBELL

New member Comm. S. Campbell was sworn in as a new member of the Commission.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chief D. Hussher reported on two outstanding issues: traffic lights at the railway crossing on River Street and TMR radio system. He has been in communications with representatives for both but has not been able to finalize either issue to date. He hopes to have something to report by the next Commission meeting; if received sooner he will send an information email out to members.

Discussion. Comm. B. Knight asked if stop signs would be sufficient instead of traffic lights. Chief D. Hussher stated that he was specifically asked to get a price on traffic lights, but responded to Comm. B. Knight's question saying that stop signs are all that is required at this crossing. Comm. B. Knight felt it would be overkill to put in traffic lights in - big expense; whereas stop signs serve the same purpose.

Chief D. Hussher informed members that the radio installer found and fixed the problem with the existing radio system; wiring was the problem. The radios are now clear and radio communication is good. Chief D. Hussher said there is still a safety issue with this system; the whole reason for moving to a new radio system. Chief D. Hussher pointed out that the RCMP and most of the province and across the Country have been on TMR radios for the past several years. The Department originally budgeted for a digital radio system, to concur with the Town of New Glasgow's radio communications, but that was put to a halt before budget approval as New Glasgow's department moved to TMR radios. As a result, Chief D. Hussher said the Department is looking at TMR radios, an expense he plans to put into next year's budget.

Comm. D. MacGillivray asked if it was possible for Stellarton to go with the TMR system and the Town of Westville stay with their current radio system; can the departments be on different radio systems? Chief D. Hussher said yes, the departments can

communicate with no problem on two different radio systems, adding that although Westville would prefer not to switch systems at this time, they would for the safety of officers.

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: OCTOBER 2018

The October 2018 Monthly Activity Report was presented and reviewed. Chief D. Hussher gave a verbal report:

- Halloween went without incident.
- Training conducted: Const. C. Irving has returned from DRE training in Florida. He is currently on the Active Shooter course. Const. C. Irving was impressed and enthused by the caliber of training he received in the United States; not only the training itself but the caliber of the instructors. Truro, Kentville and Amherst officers also in the past/present have chosen to receive their training in the United States; far superior; worth the travel expense. Chief D. Hussher will invite Const. C. Irving to speak to the Commission on the DRE training and training in the United States in the near future.
- Const. N. MacCulloch recently attended the RCMP headquarters and successfully completed the Scenes of Crime course. Const. N. MacCulloch's course report showed she was an excellent candidate. This is an asset to the Department to have that expertise on duty and available. A Westville constable also took the course. Chief D. Hussher said it is going to be an advantage to us to have both those officers.
- Next week Const. G. MacPherson will be taking the Standard Field Sobriety Testing course, along with a constable from the Town of Westville put on at the RCMP headquarters.
- The Department has a spot on Sexual Assault course conducted by the Department of Justice the first two weeks in December (this came as a result of the audits that went through the province last year); also, our Department, along with the Town of Westville, has a seat on the Child Interview and Sexual Assault Complaints course.
- Last Saturday the Stellarton Police Service took part in the Touch the Truck event that took place at the Museum of Industry.
- Officers are raising funds for the annual fundraiser "Movember" which involves the growing of moustaches during the month to raise awareness of men's health issues.

Comm. B. Knight inquired if the Department has a process for washing police vehicles. Chief D. Hussher said the process is similar to that of other Departments throughout the County. He said our Department tries to get a detailed interior/exterior cleaning of vehicles once a month and regular exterior cleaning once or twice a week.

Information item: Comm. B. Knight reported that Council is not having a bow season in Stellarton; apparently someone was asking at the Town Hall.

It was moved by Comm. D. MacGillivray to accept the Monthly Activity Report for the month of October 2018, seconded by Comm. B. Knight **Motion Carried.**

POLICE REVIEW SUBMISSIONS

Town Clerk S. Higdon reported that the Town of Stellarton received the following proposals regarding the police review which were due on September 28, 2018:

1. MCG Consulting Solutions \$55,000
2. MNP \$119,000

3. KPMG \$112,000
4. Pick Empowerment \$69,575.00
5. Procedia Security Consulting \$56,000

Town Clerk S. Higdon said a recommendation is required for Council's consideration should the Commission wish to proceed.

Comm. B. Knight opened up the discussion by saying that Council members in attendance at a meeting held recently are against spending this kind of money on a police review. Comm. D. MacGillivray echoed those comments adding that the cost is at least three times what the Town expected it to be. He suggested the Town not accept any of the above recommendations.

Comm. D. MacGillivray made the motion that the Commission not accept any of the recommendations for the police review submissions, seconded by Comm. A. Pearson.
Motion Carried.

HALLOWEEN

Comm. D. MacGillivray shared a comment he found on Facebook where Stellarton police officers, while on patrol, stopped and talked with children and handed out candy. The resident that witnessed this said it was nice to see the officers enjoying Halloween and taking time to share smiles with children. Comm. D. MacGillivray said the comment had over 100 likes on Facebook and a couple of comments. Comm. D. MacGillivray congratulated the Department on a successful night and really good public relations as well.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is schedule to December 6th, at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Comm. A. Pearson the meeting adjourned.

CHAIRMAN

TOWN CLERK

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION
November 1, 2018
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