

**May 15, 2025, 6pm**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

### **MEETING**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm in the large committee room, Town Hall.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman D. Stroud, Comm P. Kay, Comm D. Taylor, Comm S. Campbell, Comm P. Lloyd, Comm D. Guthro, Chief Mark Hobeck, and CAO S. Higdon.

### **Regrets**

Comm G. Pentz

### **Approval of Agenda**

Chairman D. Stroud asked if anyone wanted to add anything to the agenda. Hearing no requests for additions, Chairman D. Stroud then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Comm D. Taylor made a motion that the agenda be approved. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. Comm D. Guthro then asked if he could add the residence at the corner of Acadia Avenue and King Street to the agenda. With this addition the agenda was approved and the **Motion Carried**. CAO Higdon stated that this addition would be added after NGPD correspondence on the agenda.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Chairman D. Stroud asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes. Comm D. Taylor made a motion that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Comm P. Kay **Motion Carried**.

### **Business Arising from The Minutes**

Comm D. Taylor asked about the cube van that was parked at the corner of Pleasant Street and Bridge Avenue. CAO Higdon stated that this vehicle was mover under "Dangerous and Unsightly" and was no longer an issue at this time.

### **Monthly Activity Reports March 2025**

Chief Hobeck reported that the number of occurrences was up slightly from the previous year with 212 calls for service. Chief Hobeck added there were 40 MVA violations which made for a busy month in traffic. Comm D. Taylor asked about the 8 reported assaults. Chief Hobeck responded that these were in-house assaults and that they were not random. Comm P. Lloyd asked about the one child pornography occurrence. Chief Hobeck responded that this comes from a provincial unit with the RCMP. (ICE) (Internet Child Exploitation Unit). This unit was to handle all such occurrences, however they are unable to do so due to the high volume, so they have a queue now and the ones that are deemed as high priority in our jurisdiction are passed along to us. Chief Hobeck added that he does not like having these files as the department does not have the expertise or equipment to investigate such files and that these files are very difficult for the officers. who are not trained; however, they can reach out to the ICE unit for assistance. Chief Hobeck also stated a local unit to deal with such files will probably happen at some point. Comm D. Guthro asked what a Coroner's Act file was. Chief Hobeck responded that this was a sudden death within a home. Chief Hobeck then reported Cst Kim Berthier had

received the Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement (AWLE) award for Leadership and Fitness at her graduation at the Atlantic Police Academy which he was able to attend and present her her badge. Cst Gabe Vandergriff conducted a Cyber Safety and Texting presentation at GR Saunders Elementary School. Chairman D. Stroud then asked if there were quotas for traffic tickets. Chief Hobeck responded that there were not. Comm S. Campbell made a motion that the report be approved. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd.

**Motion Carried.**

**Roots for Youth**

Comm P. Lloyd reported complaints being received from neighbors of Roots for Youth, which include drugs, noise and trespassing. CAO Higdon stated that unsigned complaints are not accepted, however, will be noted. Comm P. Lloyd stated that there are complaints about open drug use in clear view of the public. Chief Hobeck stated that there have been 28 calls to this location, with one charge laid. Chief Hobeck then stated that Cst Kim Berthier will be the liaison officer for this facility. CAO Higdon stated that the council had attended a presentation by the Executive Director of this organization that was quite passionate. Comm S. Campbell stated that she thinks the youth are not supervised at all during the day and wondered what could be done. Chief Hobeck stated that there will be discussions with staff going forward. CAO Higdon reported that this facility was a homeless youth shelter for youth that are homeless. (not a treatment facility) Chairman D. Stroud stated that the complaints are legitimate and raised good points and that everyone has rules to live by. Comm D. Taylor stated that this could be the result of a few individuals who are making a bad name for them all. Discussion was held about the fact that all incidents are probably not being reported. Chief Hobeck stated that confidentiality is very important at this facility, however he will be consulting with their representative going forward.

**Department Of Justice Correspondence**

CAO Higdon stated that this letter was addressed to the mayor regarding the additional officer program. (Street Crime) CAO Higdon stated that for the time being it is status quo with no additional funding although Chief Hobeck stated that additional funding was requested. Chief Hobeck stated that there will be structural changes within this program soon.

**New Glasgow Regional Police- Correspondence**

Chief Hobeck reported receiving a letter from Chief Ryan Leil of the New Glasgow Regional Police that stated his appreciation for assistance rendered in a critical incident in their town April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Residence on the Corner of King Street and Acadia Avenue**

Comm D. Guthro reported that there is garbage on this property that ends up on the Air Force Clubs property and that some individuals from this residence are sleeping in the

smoke shack of the Air Force Club. Comm D. Guthro requested Police monitor this area with patrols.

**Next Meeting-** CAO Higdon stated that the next meeting is scheduled for two weeks from now and suggested that the Commission may want to skip the June meeting and have the next meeting on the first Thursday in July. (July 3<sup>rd</sup>) This suggestion was accepted.

### **Adjournment**

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