

**September 4, 2025, 530pm**  
**STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA**

### **MEETING**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Stellarton Police Commission was held on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at 5:30 pm in the large committee room, Town Hall.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman D. Stroud, Comm P. Kay, Comm S. Campbell, Comm G. Pentz, Comm P. Lloyd, Comm D. Taylor, Comm D. Guthro, CAO Alanna Grover, Insp Chris Pond and Chief Mark Hobeck.

### **Regrets**

None

### **Approval of Agenda**

Chairman D. Stroud asked if anyone had any revisions or additions to the agenda, hearing none, asked for a motion to approve. Comm P. Kay made a motion that the agenda be approved. Seconded by Comm D. Taylor. **Motion Carried.**

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Chairman D. Stroud stated that they had just received the minutes and asked that everyone take a few minutes to read them over. Comm D. Taylor made a motion that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Comm S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

### **Business Arising**

Comm S. Campbell asked if there was any movement on the suggestion of Town Hall sessions where the public could ask questions. Chairman D. Stroud responded that there was not, yet, but it was something he would like to do. Comm D. Taylor asked how this would take place. Chair D. Stroud responded that this could take place in the Town Hall or Town Square and have various topics. Comm. D. Taylor suggested that the Provincial Police Review be a topic, so the public could be aware of the recommendation of increased RCMP presence in the province.

### **Monthly Activity Reports July/August 2025**

Chief Hobeck reported that the number of calls were down slightly in July from the same period in 2024. Chief Hobeck added that Homecoming from a Policing standpoint went very well. Chief Hobeck then stated he and Cst Wheeler had attended the Special Olympics Torch Run at St FX in Antigonish which was well received. Chief Hobeck then reported charges for July included 10 Criminal Code and 9 MVA with 84 warnings. Chief Hobeck then asked if there were any questions. Comm S. Campbell asked for clarification on the warnings. Chief Hobeck responded that they were all involving the MVA and it was at the officer's discretion if warnings or tickets were issued, adding that warnings can be just as effective. Chief Hobeck then stated that calls for August were also down slightly from the previous year and although there were no listed Community Events, there were hours reported that were simply visiting places in the neighborhood. Comm D. Taylor asked about the Forrest Protection Act occurrence. Insp Pond responded that this was a resident calling and requesting information. Chair D. Stroud asked if there was an established pattern and time regarding foot patrol. Chief Hobeck responded that there is not and that officers set their own routes regarding this, when time allows. Comm D. Taylor reported increased activity and several calls to Police regarding persons in Allan Park at night causing a commotion. Chief Hobeck stated that he has heard things have

quieted down there lately. Comm P. Kay then asked about Roots for Youth. Chief Hobeck responded that the department has Cst Kim Berthier as a liaison officer. Comm D. Stroud and Chairman D. Stroud reported hearing various complaints about the activities of their residents. Comm D. Taylor reported that this organization has been taken over by the YMCA. Comm G. Pentz made a motion that the report be accepted. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. **Motion Carried.**

### **June YTD Financial Police Commission Report**

CAO Alana Grover stated that this report was for the first quarter and was sitting at 26%, adding the first quarter is usually the biggest and 'evens out' after that. Chief Hobeck stated that wages and benefits were over, however this was due to staffing concerns as there were people off. Chairman Stroud asked who prepares this report and CAO Grover responded that it was Brenda MacKay from Finance. Chairman Stroud mentioned the larger number in Police Supply. Chief Hobeck responded that a large amount of this was IT and the installation of the new server, which has taken considerable time due to ongoing requests from the RCMP. A motion was made by Comm G. Pentz that the report be accepted. Seconded by Comm P. Lloyd. Comm D. Taylor then asked if police were any closer to having in-car computers. Chief Hobeck and Inspector Pond responded that they were very close and are just waiting for RCMP representatives to make the switch. Comm D. Taylor then asked if Police were near the end of any leases on the patrol cars. Chief Hobeck responded that they were not. **Motion Carried.**

### **Nova Scotia Environmental Public Health Guidance for Encampment Sites.**

CAO Grover stated that this document was for information only and was intended to assist municipalities who are having issues with this problem. This document is to provide guidance specific to the prevention and response to environmental public health concerns which may arise from all encampment sites including environment health hazards and communicable disease prevention and control. The document aims to improve health and sanitation conditions and minimize negative health impacts. CAO Grover then stated that there is currently no encampment sites within the town of Stellarton which was confirmed by Insp Pond. Chairman Stroud voiced his concerns about this issue, however stated that he thought the tone of the letter was more about managing the situation, than working to prevent it. Comm G. Pentz it sounded like "downloading" from the province to municipalities and thought a response to the letter should be sent outlining the commissions concerns. Comm D. Taylor stated that it would go to the same persons that were involved in the "Policing Review" which is not good. Discussion was held among commission members about the fact that this issue takes police away from other issues within the community. Chairman Stroud asked what the proper response would be trying to assist someone seen on the street that appears to be homeless. Chief Hobeck responded that he did not have an answer. CAO Grover added that some people do not want to be helped, but information could be passed along to these individuals that there is help available through Viola's place and Social Service.

### **Letter from Nova Scotia Emergency Management regarding Homeless Encampments and Wildfires.**

CAO Grover reported a letter had been sent out from the Deputy Minister of EMO in mid-August asking that efforts be made to have encampments moved out of wooded area, but after speaking with Insp Pond, realized that this was currently not an issue within the town.

**Email from Chief David MacNeil, Truro Police Service, Policing Review.**

Chief Hobeck commented that this letter was regarding the recent Policing Review and was originally sent to Truro's Council and Police Commission and was then shared with other municipality's Council and Police Commissions. Comm G. Pentz suggested that everyone wait until the audit is completed before comments or suggestions, but stated the letter was very well written.

**Email from Micheline-Law Enforcement Torch Run**

CAO Grover reported receiving an email from the Site Communication Manager at Michelin which was a thank you for the department's involvement with the Law Enforcement Torch Run and mentioned Cst Jordan Wheeler in particular who she stated was a stellar ambassador for the department and wanted to pass along what a great job he had done. Comm G. Pentz asked if maybe a letter be sent to Cst Wheeler regarding this. Insp Pond stated that the letter was added to his personnel file.

**Next Meeting**

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

**Adjournment**

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