

December 4, 2025, 530pm
STELLARTON, NOVA SCOTIA

MEETING

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

PRESENT

Chair D. Stroud, Co-Chair D. Taylor, Comm P. Kay, Comm P. Lloyd, Comm D. Guthro, Comm S. Campbell, Insp Chris Pond, Chief Mark Hobeck and Chris MacNeil from the Department of Justice.

Regrets

CAO Alanna Grover

Approval of Agenda

Chair D. Stroud stated that Comm D. Taylor had requested that the crosswalk between Sobeys Square and Union Street be added to the agenda, adding that this item would be Item # 8. With this addition Chair D. Stroud asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Comm D. Taylor made a motion that the agenda be approved. Seconded by Comm G. Pentz. **Motion Carried.**

Approval of the Minutes- November 6, 2025

Chair D. Stroud indicated that the minutes were not currently available so the approval of such would be deferred to the next meeting.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Deferred to next meeting.

Monthly Activity Report- November 2025

Chief Hobeck reported that there were 167 calls for the Month of November, which was down slightly from the previous year. Chief Hobeck stated that he would like to highlight some of the events in the month of November, which included a tour of the Police station by residents of Riverview Home. Officers had attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at the cenotaph. TELUS Health had attended and had a presentation of the resources available in the Employee Assistance Program. Cst Keigan Smith and he had attended "Operation Christmas" in Halifax and he had also attended the Town's Christmas Tree Lighting event and finally the previous Saturday was the "Cram the Cruiser" event held at Sobeys Stellarton which was a big success. Comm D. Taylor asked about the high number of suspicious persons calls (19 calls). Insp Pond responded that many of these stems from "Roots for Youth" calls, adding that they now go by the name "YMCA Housing" Chair D. Stroud then asked for a motion to approve the report. Comm G. Pentz made a motion that the report be approved. Seconded by Comm D. Taylor. **Motion Carried.**

September YTD Financial Police Commission Report

Chief Hobeck reported that at the end of September, which is exactly halfway through the fiscal year, the budget was at 49.42%, which was right on target. Chair D. Stroud noted that although right on target for budget, he did notice a 15% rise over the previous year with 21% rise in salaries and benefits asking Chief Hobeck the reason for this. Chief Hobeck responded that this was due to officers being moved from one level to the next and shifts being covered by overtime due to a few officers being off long term. Comm D. Taylor asked if there was a plan regarding the overtime going forward. Chief Hobeck

responded that a discussion was held regarding a term officer being hired, however there are none available at the present time, so for now they are moving people around to cover the shifts. Comm D. Taylor stated his concern about losing another officer and how that would put the department in a tough situation. Chair D. Stroud asked for a motion to approve the report. Comm P. Lloyd made a motion to approve the report. Seconded by Comm S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.**

Municipal Police Boards- Functions and Responsibilities

Chair D. Stroud stated that this was a refresh and for information purposes only and trusted everyone had a chance to read through it.

Communicating Police Statistics- Social Media Platforms

Comm D. Taylor stated that he had noticed an increase in social media activity from the department and that he would like to see this continue, adding that the Truro Police Service does an excellent job with this, posting accidents and serious incidents where the public is asked to avoid a particular area. Comm D. Taylor suggested that maybe Town Marketing and Communication Director Paige Draper could get more involved if she was available and maybe update significant incidents day to day. Chair D. Stroud stated that he thought it very important to keep the public updated and wondered if a discussion should take place to review policy regarding this. Comm D. Taylor added that there really isn't a local media anymore and that getting the message out is important. Chair D. Stroud stated that this could be put on the agenda for council to review.

Crosswalk Between Sobeys Square and Union Street

Comm D. Taylor stated his concerns of this area as people parking on Foord Street are not observing the hash marks (yellow lines) and are parking too close to the crosswalk. Comm D. Taylor stated that this is a congested area and will be ever more so due to a new business opening and that he would like to see the crosswalk moved to the intersection of Jubilee Avenue and Foord Street. Chief Hobeck stated that this crosswalk was moved originally because of the outdoor patio at Andres Seat which is no longer there. Chief Hobeck stated that he will speak to the Town Engineer about this.

Presentation-Chris MacNeil, Managing Auditor, Public Safety & Security Division

Mr. MacNeil gave a brief presentation, including a slide show, outlining his and his agency's role and responsibilities within the Department of Justice. After the presentation, Chair D. Stroud asked if there were any questions. A motion was made by Comm G. Pentz and Seconded by Comm S. Campbell that any questions for Mr. MacNeil be made in-camera.

Deer Killing

Comm G. Pentz stated there was a rumor that a deer had been killed within town and its antlers removed and wanted to know if this was true. Insp Chris Pond stated that he will look into the matter and report back to the Commission at its next meeting.

Next Meeting

January 8th, 2025.

STELLARTON POLICE COMMISSION
December 5th, 2025
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Adjournment