

RCMP Advisory Board – Meeting Minutes

Date: June 7, 2018

Time: 5:37 PM

Location: Municipality of the County of Antigonish, Board Room

Present

Chair, Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart

Town Councillor Jack MacPherson

Deputy Mayor Diane Roberts

Municipal Councillor Vaughan Chisholm

Carrol MacAdam (Member at Large)

Fred Bell (Member at Large)

Sgt. Warren McBeath (RCMP)

Glenn Horne (Municipal Clerk Treasurer)

Regrets

Mayor Laurie Boucher

Jeff Lawrence, Town CAO

Matt Whitehead (Provincial Representative)

Russel Nicols (Member at Large)

Bill Gottschall (Member at Large)

Minutes

A meet and greet was held immediately prior to the official call to order.

1. Call to Order

Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM

2. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda. Welcome of Representative from Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation was removed from the agenda. Paqtnkek is undertaking a significant land vote today.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. Roberts, seconded by F. Bell that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by V. Chisholm, seconded by D. Roberts that the March 1, 2018 minutes be approved. Motion carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. Moment of Silence for Former Member Walter Smith

A moment of silent was observed by the Committee. Councillor MacPherson noted that Mr. Smith was 102 years old and lived at the RK MacDonald in his final years.

7. Oath of Office

Sgt. McBeath administered the Oath of Office to Carrol MacAdam.

8. RCMP Quarterly Report

Sgt. McBeath provided an annual report (see attached). Trends viewed in the statistics dovetail with RCMP priorities. Mental health crisis calls are on the rise. Sgt. McBeath noted that the RCMP receives calls on these issues 3 of 4 days. The committee had a number of questions. The Committee was pleased with the trends and the report. DW Stewart noted that the report provided by the RCMP helped advocate to TIR for the improvement of the shoulders of Trunk 7.

C. MacAdam raised the issue of cars passing school buses when picking up or dropping off children. This is a common and dangerous occurrence. Only some buses have cameras to verify these occurrences, otherwise bus drivers have to attend court if a charge is laid.

Motion by Councillor MacPherson, seconded by Deputy Mayor Roberts, that Municipal and Town Council's advocate that the Strait Regional Centre for Education install cameras on all school buses to address the issue of cars passing school buses when picking up or dropping off children.

9. RCMP Walking Patrol

Councillor MacPherson spoke to Town Council's interest in seeing walking patrols along the downtown core. Sgt. McBeath stated that foot patrols would start by the last week of June.

10. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

11. Roundtable

DW Stewart spoke to the discussions at the Regional Committee of Police Advisory Boards.

Councillor MacPherson spoke about the division of Town vs County officers in the detachment and how well the crossover works. Question about the ability to have 24hr policing; Sgt. McBeath stated we cannot due to the number of members and the number of calls not justifying it.

Councillor Roberts raised the issue of speeding on Town streets. Sgt. McBeath suggested that if the street were identified he can set up localized enforcement in either Town or County.

F. Bell noted that the school zone on Breamore is difficult to see if children are present until you are well into the zone. Sgt. McBeath noted that "children present" is defined as being within 33ft of the centre-line; designed to protect children on the sidewalk rather than in the adjacent field.

The Committee also discussed the ability to turn right on red at the new Town intersection at West/Highland/St. Ninian. RCMP are coordinating this with TIR.

12. Adjournment

On motion of F. Bell and V. Chisholm the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2018, at the Town Office, chaired by Councillor MacPherson. Sgt. McBeath suggested Cannabis legislation should be on the agenda.