



Minutes

The Blue Mountains Police Services Board

Date: December 15, 2021
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers - Virtual Meeting
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON
Prepared by:
Kyra Dunlop, Acting Executive Assistant to Committees of Council

Members Present: Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, Gail Ardiel
Staff Present: Detachment Commander Loris Licharson, Sergeant Kevin Cornell, Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker, Constable Trevor McKean, and Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt

A. Call to Order

NOTE: The Town of The Blue Mountains continues to be in a declared state of emergency, and the Council, Committee and Board Meetings will continue to be held virtually during this time. The Blue Mountains Police Services Board Meeting will be recorded and posted to the website following the meeting.

A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

A.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Alar Soever
Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT the Agenda of December 15, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)

A.3 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2019-56, The Blue Mountains Police Services Board Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

A.4 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT The Blue Mountains Police Services Board minutes of October 20, 2021 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)

B. Public Meetings/Deputations/Presentations

None

C. Staff Reports

C.1 Detachment Commander's Report

Detachment Commander Loris Licharson reviewed the Detachment Commander's Report providing detailed statistics for the fourth partial quarter, October and November. The report provided an update on the RIDE program, foot patrol hours, staffing, By-Law calls for service, Auxiliary unit, street crime unit, mental health response unit, marine patrol, COVID-19 response, Detachment initiatives, updates on decision notes and staff introductions of two new officers.

Chair Oliver noted he had been invited to accompany Detachment Commander Licharson on a foot patrol in downtown Thornbury and that they would be attempting to conduct a monthly foot patrol together.

Mayor Soever asked what the vaccination rate amongst officers was and asked if there were any concerns about staffing levels in the event there was a surge in COVID-19 numbers. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that he had a high level of confidence in providing the same service level throughout COVID-19 and noted that screening took place before each shift and that all officers had personal protective equipment they were required to wear.

Loris noted that per the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) policy that vaccinations were required and that individuals who refused to vaccinate were required to complete a mandatory educational program and test themselves every 48 hours.

Chair Oliver asked how often the auxiliary group meets and noted he would welcome the opportunity to attend a future meeting to thank them for their time and efforts. Detachment Commander Loris Licharson noted that he would ensure Chair Oliver's request is passed on to the auxiliary group. Board member Gail Ardiel asked how many of the auxiliary group members were from Town of The Blue Mountains. Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker noted that 3 members were from the Town, 4 members were from Collingwood and 4 members were from other locations.

Chair Oliver asked how many staff members were on the street crime unit. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that the Town contributed three officers plus one detective and that Huronia West OPP Detachment contributes three officers.

Mayor Soever asked what types of charges and the average cost of a ticket were being placed under the Canadian Shipping Act. Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker noted that most of the charges laid under the Act were safety related. Detachment Commander Loris Licharson noted he would investigate the matter. Mayor Soever asked how the marine unit was reflect in the Town's contract with the OPP and if calls would be considered calls for service. Loris noted that they would be considered calls for service in the Detachment area.

Chair Oliver noted that there had been recent news stories covering the death of individuals dying while in police custody and asked how policy monitoring of inmates was conducted in the Detachment. Detachment Commander Loris Licharson noted that prisoner care was taken very seriously at the detachment. Loris noted that officers were at the detachment to assist with lodging the individual and that video surveillance was in the lodging. Loris further noted that guards completed regular checks on inmates and that they would ask questions to ensure the prisoner's medical history was provided.

Detachment Commander Loris Licharson introduced two new OPP staff members, being Constable Christine Dineen, School Resource Officer who was unable to attend the meeting, and Constable Trevor McKean, Community Services Officer. Trevor provided his professional background and experience, noting he had been born and raised in the Town and worked as an officer for 31 years. Trevor provided an overview of his role and noted that his focus was on youth, senior and at-risk communities. Loris provided an overview of Christine's position and noted that the two positions were relationship based with a goal to interact with parents, students, staff, and neighbouring businesses in proactive and positive ways.

Chair Oliver asked if a school resource officer was in the Meaford secondary school. Loris noted that he was unable to provide a response relating to what Grey County had opted to do regarding having School Resource Officers throughout the county but that the School Resource Officer position in Collingwood had been allocated through Collingwood enhancements. Staff Sergeant Chris Maecker noted that important inroads were being made at the Meaford school and noted it was important to make that connection as students that went to school lived in the Thornbury area. Chair Oliver asked if the Town had the ability to offer resources to liaise with the Meaford school. Chief Administrative Officer Shawn Everitt noted that it would be worthwhile for the Town to connect with Meaford and discuss options about a School Resource Officer. Loris noted that he would be willing to speak with Grey County counterparts and report back to the Board regarding options for a School Resources Officer.

Moved by: Alar Soever

Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT the Detachment Commander's Report 2021 for the month of October and November for The Blue Mountains Police Services Board be received as presented this 15th day of December, 2021.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)

Moved by: Alar Soever

Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT the Police Services Board request that the Chair of the Police Services Board and the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer inquire about the services of a School Resources Officer at the Georgian Bay Community School.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)

D. Correspondence

D.1 Automated Speed Enforcement

Mayor Soever noted that AMO ran a competitive bidding process for acquisition of automated speed enforcement and asked if this was coordinated with the OPP or if the OPP was considering purchasing opportunities for the equipment. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that he was not aware of any plans that the OPP had to purchase the automated speed enforcement equipment and noted that any means available to support traffic management was beneficial especially in School Zones or Community Safety Zones.

Chair Oliver asked what type of equipment was considered an automated speed enforcement equipment. Detachment Commander Loris Licharson noted that Black Cat Radar was a covert data collection tool but was not used in enforcement, whereas equipment such as red-light cameras would be considered automated enforcement.

E. Other Business

E.1 Security Alarm By-law Update (verbal)

CAO Everitt noted that through the Town's 2022 budget deliberations consideration had been given to fees and charges associated with the Security Alarm By-Law. CAO Everitt noted that the current fees for residential registration were \$25; commercial registration was \$50; and the fees to dispatch officers to an alarm were between \$50 to \$200. CAO Everitt noted that staff would be updating the fees section of Security Alarm By-Law in 2022 as the fees were outdated and that there were still many responses to security alarms that were a result of contractor error. CAO Everitt noted a fee increase was not intended to discourage residents from registering their alarms or to be concerned about their alarms being responded to in the case of emergencies, rather to ensure alarms were being properly maintained. CAO Everitt further noted that fire alarm fees have increased and that the Town was looking at ensuring consistent fee structures.

E.2 Correspondence from Penetang Police Services Board

Committee members discussed the recidivism rates in the community.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Alar Soever

THAT the Police Services Board receives Item E.2 Correspondence from the Town of Penetanguishene Police Services Board for information.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)

E.3 Kolapore Traffic Update

Mayor Soever noted that the issues within the correspondence had been referred to the Transportation Committee. CAO Everitt noted that there had been speeding concerns at the 21st Sideroad and 10th Line in Loree, and that Council had directed staff to refer the correspondence to the Transportation Committee and that traffic counters had also been placed in those areas.

F. Adjournment

Moved by: Alar Soever
Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT this Police Services Board Meeting does now adjourn at 10:15 a.m. to meet again on February 16, 2022 or at the call of the Chair.

Yay (3): Jim Oliver, Alar Soever, and Gail Ardiel

The motion is Carried (3 to 0)