

# KENTVILLE POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES April 17, 2020

**PRESENT**

Chairman Gerrard, Commissioner Mahoney,  
Commissioner Pearl, CAO Rice, Chief Cecchetto,  
Finance Director Debra Crowell and Recording Secretary  
Dawn Fitch.

Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Maxwell via  
phone.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL  
CALL**

Chairman Gerrard called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Commissioner Pearl and seconded by  
Commissioner Mahoney

**that the agenda be approved with two additions  
4(b) and 5(a)**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
February 13th, 2020**

Minutes approved

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM  
THE MINUTES**

**(a) Dispatch Transfer**

Chief Cecchetto advised Bridgewater Dispatch took over  
on April 5/20 and it is going well, the members are  
happy. There was one instance when two 911 calls came  
in at the same time and Bridgewater couldn't get through.  
This was due to only having 2 phone lines, however, they  
now have 6, solving the problem.

**(b) Taxis**

Chief Cecchetto advised a cost proposal was sent to the  
Municipality of Kings County for looking after their taxis  
which they declined. They are going to look after their  
own. The licensing has been extended to May at which  
time we will assess again due to COVID 19. There is no  
fee increase this year but there may be next year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **(a) Designated Provincial Authority**

Chief Cecchetto advised that Assistant Commissioner Lee Bergerman, Halifax RCMP is in charge of handling all of provincial COVID 19. She is the co-ordinator and can direct all police. This authority is temporary until after the pandemic is over.

Chief Cecchetto advised at this time that the promotional routine for Deputy Chief was conducted and Sgt. Marty Smith is the new Deputy Chief. He will go in and work with the provincial authority which is a good training and educational opportunity for him.

## **REPORTS**

### **(a) Chief's Report (attached)**

Chief Cecchetto highlighted her report noting she has had at least 50 COVID related conference calls. The calls for service were down, the office is closed to the public, training was cancelled in March and April and there are no vehicle stops; all COVID related. The Chief advised that the bill sent to Valley Health has still not been paid.

### **(b) S/Cst Wood's Report (attached)**

Chief Cecchetto highlighted the by-law report. Parking is not being enforced but parking is not an issue right now. Sp/Cst. Wood is helping out with COVID laws and looking after Town by-laws. He was away for 2 weeks and had to self quarantine for 2 weeks upon his return.

### **(c) Chair's Report**

Chairman Gerrard advised he was just at a N.S.A.P.G. meeting but there is nothing new to report. The Department of Justice is busy with COVID 19 and is short staffed.

### **(d) Financial Report/Budget (attached)**

Chief Cecchetto highlighted the report noting that overtime is unpredictable. The Canadian Police College increased course costs. Some impaired training and equipment costs are to be reimbursed by the Province, such as a new Intoxilizer and a new drug screener. The new heating system and lights have paid off as costs are down. The bulk of the roof is completed and has been billed already. Communications are good, two computers broke this year unexpectedly and needed to be replaced,

insurance and the deductible has doubled partly due to having 3 vehicle collisions.

Commissioner Maxwell suggested looking at the school crossing guards and possibly discontinuing one or more. Some discussion ensued.

Commissioner Maxwell seconded by Commissioner Pearl moved

**to recommend to Council to reduce by half the number of crossing guards by removing the guard at Gary Pearl Drive and maintaining the Park Street guard.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Chief Cecchetto noted that SCEU has been taken down for 10 weeks, to be reassessed then. All members are back on shift.

Chief Cecchetto advised that for Capitol, 12 soft body armour is required as they expire every 5 years and 5 hard body armour are required. The cost is approximately \$4,000. A new cruiser is required, however due to COVID we probably can't order it until July. We have a 3 year cycle to replace cruisers. The unmarked Mazda 3 vehicle is due to be replaced as well. Video upgrades are needed in the cars, interview room and entryway. Some discussion ensued.

Commissioner Maxwell seconded by Commissioner Walker moved

**a recommendation to Council to approve the 2020/2021 capitol budget without the unmarked vehicle.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**IN CAMERA**

Commissioner Mahoney seconded by Commissioner Pearl moved at 2:50 pm

**to enter in camera session for an update on**

**staffing.**

Commissioner Mahoney seconded by Commissioner Pearl moved at 3:50 pm

**to come out of in camera**

Commissioner Maxwell seconded by Commissioner Pearl moved

**to recommend to Council to approve the 2020/2021 Operational Budget as is.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm

APPROVED