

KENTVILLE POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES September 24, 2021

PRESENT Chairman Gerrard, Commissioner Mahoney, Commissioner Pearl, Commissioner Walker, Commissioner Yorke, A/Chief Butler, CAO Troke and Recording Secretary Dawn Fitch.

Guest David Bell, Town of Kentville Traffic Authority

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL Chairman Gerrard called the meeting to order at 12:55 pm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA It was moved by Commissioner Walker and seconded by Commissioner Yorke

that the agenda be approved

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Minutes approved
July 30th, 2021

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM
THE MINUTES**

**(a) Parking, crosswalk, planter issues, questions for
Dave Bell**

Some discussion ensued on parking. It was determined by a prior consultation that there is plenty of free day time parking downtown. RBC, Scotiabank, Paddy's Pub crosswalk was discussed and determined to be more of a public education piece. Provincial approval is required to reduce traffic speed downtown. It was noted that yellow cautionary signs are recommended but it is not "official" whereas the white signs are imposed. Police cannot ticket on a yellow sign. Radar signs work the best. Solar strobe crosswalk lights were discussed and Dave will look into them and get prices. Dave noted they are just finishing up the crosswalk painting and advised that white paint is hard to get and some of it is not as good. It is an issue across the country. He also noted that the painting machine thins out the paint too much. Loose pavers are an issue in various parts of the downtown. Commissioner Pearl inquired about

possibly installing a hidden driveway sign on Glenview Ave. at the intersection with Comeau for going down the hill. It was noted that the skinny flexible slow down signs have to be so many feet away from the Provincially owned roads. Dave will look into this as well. Bus people have complained about the planters being a traffic hazard. Erosion on the trail was discussed and noted to be a Park/Recreation issue.

Dave Bell left at 1:30 pm.

(b) Town Hall discussion

There was some discussion on holding a Town Hall session offsite as that is a neutral site such as at the Fire Hall. People can in person voice their concerns/issues, engage the community. It is information gathering as the Commission is responsible for lines of communication between police and the community. CAO Troke agrees that the Commission should host it. Two sessions were suggested, one in the daytime and one in the evening as it would afford more opportunity for people to attend. It may take several meetings for enough people to attend and information obtained. The best practices viewpoint shows the meetings as open and accessible. Acting Chief Butler advised he is developing a long-term strategy framework with the commission's input being important. He noted that he wanted to do a Town Hall meeting anyway. The Town Hall will take time. The meeting should be publicized noting what we want to accomplish. Advertise on social platforms, radio, other media, KCA PTA, etc. CAO suggests the new Chief can be introduced there.

It was moved by Commissioner Walker and seconded by Commissioner Yorke

to have a Town Hall and to work out the details

MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Yorke left at 1:55 pm to attend another meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business to discuss

REPORTS

(a) Chief's Reports (attached)

A/Chief Butler updated what he has been doing; going to various meetings, introducing himself, learning how things work, understanding finances and thanked the Board for their support. He acknowledged Chief Cecchetto did a fantastic job. He also encouraged the Commission's engagement. There is a policy review underway at KPS, notes training is important and he hopes to establish an employee wellness program. Staffing is an important issue with the current model suggesting we have enough staff. Long term may suggest a different model noting the Town's population has increased.

A/Chief Butler noted he and CAO Troke have upcoming meetings with various groups such as those representing the homeless. He advised police need to be more proactive. He asked for the Board's input with information or direction from a strategic perspective other than current reports. It was suggested that he make a list and the members do the same giving them to the Chair to discuss at the next meeting.

(b) S/Cst Wood's Reports (attached)

(c) Chair's Report

Chairman Gerrard advised that Tim Mills, Dept. of Justice, has finished the training module for the Boards. Bridgewater, Amherst and Kentville are to get together with Tim, hopefully before Christmas.

(d) Financial Report (attached)

Acting Chief Butler advised we are at 42% overall which is where we are supposed to be and should be okay. We are up on vehicle maintenance as the vehicle to be replaced is breaking down (regular wear and tear) due to not getting its replacement in time. This is an industry problem. CAO Troke advised that there is an accessibility issue with the front counter, bays and interview room which is a long-term capitol issue.

CAO Troke left at 2:35 pm

IN CAMERA

Commissioner Walker seconded by Commissioner Mahoney moved at 2:40 pm

to enter in camera session

MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Mahoney seconded by Commissioner Walker moved at 3:09 pm

to come out of in camera session.

MOTION CARRIED

The next meeting is scheduled for October 29th, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm after Commissioner Mahoney moved

to adjourn the meeting

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED