



TOWN OF KENTVILLE

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES

354 Main Street, Kentville Town Hall
July 18, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

Present:

Commissioner Virginia Brooke, Commissioner Samantha Hamilton, Commissioner Penny Hart, Commissioner Cate Savage

Staff present: Chief Marty Smith, CAO Chris McNeill, and Recording Secretary Jennifer West

Regrets:

Deputy Chief Ken Reade, Ministerial appointee

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Hamilton and Commissioner Penny Hart

That the Board approved the agenda of July 18 2025.

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Samantha Hamilton and Commissioner Penny Hart

That the minutes of the BOPC meeting of June 18, 2025 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

4. PRESENTATION

(a) None

5. CHIEFS REPORT

Chief Smith presented his reports for June, with highlights including a high number of calls in June (400) and an update on budget. The first month of the new navigator staff person is going very well.

See reports for more information

6. BUSINESS ARISING / OLD BUSINESS

- (a) Meeting dates – Change to 3rd Thursday of each month at 1 pm

It was moved by Commissioner Penny Hart and Commissioner Samantha Hamilton

That the Board of Police host their monthly meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 1pm in Town Hall.

Motion carried unanimously

- (b) Police Service and Town of Kentville

- (c) Homelessness, chronic crime, intimate partner violence
Chief Smith indicated that a new facility coming to Kentville may be bringing new resources and organizations to Kentville.

- (d) Other summer events
Chief Smith gave an update on upcoming events such as the Black Homecoming in the Valley and the Caribbean Festival this summer, mostly being led by Roxy Peterson.

- (e) Publishing KPS Policies
Chief Smith was tasked with bringing more policies onto the website.

- (f) New SharePoint folder: Policing review
Commissioner Brooke has created a folder of documents on sharepoint for collecting and sharing documents on this matter.

- (g) Publications via NSAPG, DOJ Action item Work Teams – reports

- (h) 2025 Work Plan teams will regroup for fall

7. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) **Policing Review:** input and feedback from NSFM, NSChiefs of Police, NSAPG, municipalities, DOJ; possible outcomes

Chief Smith gave a review of the police service in Kentville and Nova Scotia, and the shared services between local and provincial police services. Commissioner Brooke gave some examples of strong and supported recommendations from the review such as shared data management. The province has done a good job in some areas, but the report needs more details and a timeline. Chief Smith indicated that the most important piece is mutual collaboration and integrated between municipal and provincial police forces.

- (b) Next steps, timelines
Members expressed a need for proactive public education and awareness. Appreciation for working on this issue- it still involves a lot of learning and strategic thinking.

- (c) CAPG Annual Conference: Virtual attendance for 2 days, \$150/person
Commissioner Brooke plans to attend this conference, Commissioners Hamilton and Hart are also interested.
- (d) NS Chiefs of Police Assn updates Fall Conference, Digby
Members are invited to attend this excellent meeting, and also to join on the first day for golfing and networking.
- (e) Other

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Letter to municipal leaders from DOJ re: Policing?
- (b) Other letters avail under Sharepoint/Policing Review

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- (a) Floyd Caldwell is a community support person in support of policing and safety. He supports humanizing both officers and members of the community who are struggling.
- (b) Rob Baker brought up the Layered Policing recommendation, and hopes that Kentville's model of community crisis navigator can be praised as a successful model.
- (c) Chris McNeill explained that public education must be well-informed and strategic.

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Penny Hart and Commissioner Samantha Hamilton

That there being no further business, that the Board adjourn at 2:49pm.

Motion Carried

Minutes approved by Chair Virginia Brooke