



Minutes of the Police Advisory Board

Place: Council Chambers
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023
Chair: Thomas Shears
Members Present: Mike Masters, Myra Thiemann, and Sgt. Brian Cameron,
Deputy Mayor Arnold McDonald, and Councillor Brenton
Colborne
Regrets: District Commander S/Sgt. Craig Learning.

A quorum was present throughout the meeting.

Staff in attendance: Linda Cloney - CAO and Stan McDougall – Admin Assistant
(recording secretary).

1. Call to Order

At 6:00 pm, Thomas Shears called the meeting to order.

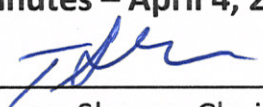
2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Myra Thieman and seconded by Mike Masters that the agenda of
the Police Advisory Board Meeting for Tuesday September 12, 2023, be
approved, as presented.

Motion Carried

3. Approval of the Minutes – April 4, 2023

Approved by _____


Thomas Shears, Chair, on September 12, 2023

4. Business

4.1 Business from the previous meeting

4.1.1 Speed Limit enforcement for various streets of Oxford – Little River Road, Lower Main Street, Sunset Avenue, Duke Street, and Jackson Street.

Speed Limit enforcement is ongoing by Oxford RCMP and the traffic division but there are still concerns with speeding and more traffic volume that is also speeding on various streets in Oxford. The committee agreed that they would like to see more ticketing and presence with some speed traps set. Speed signs are in place and visible. Speed bumps and speed humps were discussed but concern was addressed regarding the feasibility of plowing snow in the winter.

Sgt. Cameron discussed with the committee the addition of a new member to the Traffic Division and would recommend that they consider issuing more tickets where the Traffic Division already gives very few warnings.

4.1.2 Installment of Speed Boards – defer to next meeting

The committee discussed the installment of speed boards to aid in speed enforcement. CAO Cloney will investigate cost of the speed boards.

4.1.3 Crosswalk Incidents – defer to next meeting

Due to school just getting back, this item will be deferred until next meeting.

4.1.4 Flashing Lights – suggestions from PAB

CAO Cloney reviewed options for flashing lights with the committee that had come in for suspended flashing red lights. Deputy Mayor MacDonald inquired about an option for a solar powered light.

Myra Thiemann inquired if this light has been approved already in the budget. CAO Cloney indicated that an amount had been approved in the budget for a flashing red light, but further discussion and investigation

would be needed. CAO Cloney will review quotes as they come in for options and determine costs to hook up the light.

The committee agree that a suspended flashing light is the best option for visibility and an option for a solar powered should be also investigated. CAO Cloney would continue to review quotes, options, and cost to install and report back to the committee.

4.1.5 GDPRM – Update

On July 24, 2023, CAO Cloney received correspondence from Danielle from the Province which indicated that the GDPRM is still in progress and awaiting official correspondence. CAO Cloney has sent out an email prior to the meeting to get an update from the Province but has not seen a response as of yet.

It was noted that the Policing Services Review Committee cannot move forward without the GDPRM.

There will be more to report in future meetings.

4.1.6 Body Worn Camera – Update

Sgt. Cameron reviewed with the committee that Oxford detachment is all setup as are other detachments, but the body cameras are still in the testing phase and would be rolled out when ready but are a top priority by the province. Equipment in the vehicles is also being updated in preparation for these new cameras.

4.1.7 Posting RCMP Reports for public– Structure of Report to be presented, example of East Hants RCMP Report.

CAO Cloney reviewed East Hants RCMP report with the committee to discuss and compare their report with Oxford's report to discuss the layout and what is included. Names and personal related information are

removed for safety and security reasons. Pictures were discussed that could also be included for community relations involvement in the Town of Oxford as available.

In the last meeting it was agreed by the committee to post on the Town of Oxford Website the RCMP quarterly reports and a link to the report would further be posted on the Town of Oxford Face Book page directing those interested to visit the Town's website to read and or download the report.

4.2 New Business

4.2.1 RCMP Report

Sgt. Cameron presented the January 1 to March 31, 2023, RCMP report to the Police Advisory Board members.

Sgt. Cameron noted that statistics from the Traffic Team are provincial and not part of the RCMP report.

Moved by Councillor Colborne and seconded by Deputy Mayor MacDonald that the RCMP report for April 1 to June 30, 2023 be accepted, as presented.

Motion Carried

4.2.2 Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Program (SCAN) – discussion

Sgt. Cameron reviewed the Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Program (SCAN) with the committee. The group is made up of retired police officers who have many rights under the SCAN Act including evictions and shutting down properties deemed unsafe or dangerous due to illegal drugs, alcohol, prostitution, gambling.

SCAN is a free program put on by several provinces in Canada including Nova Scotia and is a free service giving citizens the tools to report problem residences and businesses and gives authorities the power to investigate and take action, holding property owners

accountable for threatening or disturbing activities that regularly take place on their property. Local police are used to provide security to SCAN members enforcing the act.

4.3 Board Member Issues

4.3.1 – Littering Signage

Myra Thiemann discussed the need for NO littering signage in and around the Town of Oxford and sighted the area where she lives as being a high target for refuse being discarded. On April 22 2023, 5 bags of garbage had been gathered around her location.

Fees and fines were discussed. Deputy Mayor MacDonald would investigate some signage options and fees. CAO Cloney would investigate signage to purchase some signs to be put up in locations around the Town of Oxford.

4.4 Municipal Issues

4.4.1 Nuisance Resident on Lower Main Street – Customer Service Requests

There have been 4 complaints come into the office over the last few weeks involving a nuisance resident had been causing a disturbance and the mayor has also been involved as it had been happening in his residential area. The RCMP have a file ongoing with the individual. CAO Cloney has been working with Sgt. Cameron on this issue directly through the Town.

It has been recommended that a peace bond be taken out by individuals involved. The Town of Oxford has forwarded all customer service requests involving the individual to the RCMP and requested that the resident follow up by calling the RCMP as well.

The SCAN program maybe a helpful tool in this situation. Sgt. Cameron discussed that a peace bond is a helpful tool in these situations because if the peace bond is broken, charges can be levied.

4.4.2 Transfer Site trespassing after hours

CAO Cloney has been working with Sgt. Cameron on this issue as well. Individuals have been going into the Transfer Station after hours taking scrap metal, setting bear traps, removal of a security camera and causing damage. These issues are also a large liability concern for the Town of Oxford.

Some individuals have been identified through camera from the County and local. A new gate has been installed. ATV's have been going around the gate, but the gate has helped. More cameras have been installed and further surveillance by Public Works, RCMP, and the transfer station attendant is taking place.

4.4.3 Generator Shed broke into

The Town Generator Shed out by Mansfield had been broken into using a pry bar on the door. A tank and a half of diesel fuel had been stolen and an attempt was made to move the Generator.

Public Works have removed the wheels on the generator, chained the generator down, installed cameras and secured the doors.

4.4.4 Street Crime Unit – Update to when unit is back up

This item was covered in a previous item

4.4.5 Noise Complaints – Customer Service Requests from Residents

CAO Cloney discussed with the council that customer service requests have

come in from two residents of the Town of Oxford concerning the same issue in the same areas of town in the month of June involving roaming individuals, presumably youths between the hours of 10:00 PM and 1:00 AM in the Henderson, Fulton, and Jackson Street areas. The incidents further involved knocking on doors, pounding on windows, and throwing rocks. Descriptions suggest the individuals were between 12 and 15 years of age, dressed in black. The requests both indicated the desire for them to be brought up at Council, for the discussion of enacting curfews. Both reports were forwarded to the RCMP for further investigation. The Town of Oxford Noise Bylaw does indicate noise restrictions; however, a curfew does not currently exist.

Councillor Colborne indicated that this is still an ongoing issue and happened at his residence in the past week.

4.5 Correspondence

4.5.1 Email from Michele Matthews, Contract Administrator with the Public Safety & Security Division – RE: Update on Policing Standards

CAO Cloney has followed up in an email that was sent in May regarding policing standards. At this time the updated policing standards have not been released yet.

4.6 Date and time for next meeting

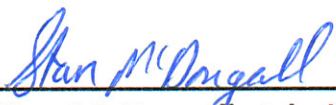
The next Police Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

5. Adjournment


The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM



Thomas Shears, Chair



Stan McDougall, Admin Assistant



Date Approved