

Pembroke Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board Draft Meeting Minutes

City Hall, Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
July 17, 2024
1:00 p.m.

Present:

Ron Gervais, Mayor
Dezai Bair-Patel
Patricia Lafreniere, Councillor
Christine Reavie
Michael St Jean

Also Present:

Inspector Stephan Neufeld, OPP, (entered meeting at 1:20 p.m.)
Acting Staff Sergeant Sarah Darraugh, OPP
Victoria Charbonneau, Recording Secretary

1. Land Acknowledgment

2. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

3. Picture Update of Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

5. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

Moved by Michael St. Jean

Seconded by Christine Reavie

That the agenda of the Pembroke Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board meeting of July 17, 2024, be approved.

Carried

It was noted that out of consideration of the presenters present at the meeting that the agenda would proceed with Item 9.a first

6. Approval of Minutes

- May 8, 2024

Motion:

Moved by Dezai Bair-Patel

Seconded by Christine Reavie

That the minutes of the Pembroke Police Services Board meeting of May 8, 2024, be approved as circulated.

Carried

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

a. Let's Remember Adam Campaign

Staff worked internally to have campaign material placed on electronic boards at the Pembroke Memorial Centre (PMC) during the last week of school in June and are scheduled to air again for the first week of school in September and intermittently throughout the school year.

b. Pembroke Business Improvement Area (PBIA) Pumpkin Treats Event

An update was provided indicating that the 2023 event had approximately 3,000 attendees and is considered a success. 2024 event October 26, 2024.

Request closure of parking for main street for the duration of the event for public safety. Foregoing closure of the street and has request additional auxiliary members to patrol the street that day. With extra signage for pedestrian and driver safety.

This will need to council – PBIA to request through delegation.

Banner will be placed where the lock it and loose it and one ordered.

Motion:

Moved by Dez Bair-Patel

Seconded by Councillor Pat Lafreniere

That the Pembroke Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board approve participating in the Let's Remember Adam Campaign and directs staff to work with staff in the Parks and Recreation Department to see if the message could be posted on the digital sign at the PMC.

Carried

8. OPP Report

• Quarterly Report (April – June 2024)

Inspector Neufeld provided the report and highlighted the following:

- Calls for service numbers are similar to 2023, slight decrease in violent crime for the quarter; assaults have decreased, significant increase in criminal harassment year to date and second quarter, slight decrease in violet crime
- Theft and motor vehicle crime, 12 last year and at 4 now – proves that locking doors works
- Fraud occurrences continue to be present in community, staff have attended public outreach events to educate vulnerable community members segments on fraud
- Noticeable decrease in Property crime year to date and this quarter
- Breach of probation increase
- Drug possession overall continue to be present in community with OPP actively engaging in measures to mitigate

- It was noted that the Hamilton Police have decided that they will not attend for strictly noise complaints. There may be other municipalities follow suit. This is done out of strategic decisions to focus efforts on crime that endangers public safety. As of now, Pembroke still answers noise complaints and bills municipalities for service.
- Foot patrol 136.45 hours for this year and opposed to 2023 and motivated to have police visibility in the downtown in consistency with last year and would ideally like to see more.

9. New Business

- a. Crime Stoppers Presentation: Community Safety Initiatives
Presented by Bennett Blackwell and Shawn Peever, Crime Stoppers Police Coordinator

The presentation and discussion included the following highlights:

- Crime Stoppers seeks to educate the City and residents on their operation and establish a relationship with the municipality to explore the potential for collaboration with Renfrew County Crime Stoppers in the future.
- An initiative being worked on presently is an updated signage and awareness campaign. With a goal to partner with Police Services Boards and/or municipalities across the County of Renfrew, to have new and updated Crime Stoppers signage erected in proximity to Neighbourhood Watch signs to raise awareness for the Crime Stoppers program and encourage the community to contact Crime Stoppers to anonymously report crime.
- Crime stoppers would also like to participate in the Golden Helmets demonstration in order to promote their organization, network and promote the program

DIRECTION:

- It was suggested that a public education partnership could potentially be struck by including crime stoppers information in tax bills to further promote to residents, and social media campaigns on municipal pages and websites
- The inclusion of Crime Stoppers information in tax bill mail outs
- Community Watch meetings attendance by Crime Stoppers
- Share material on PSB Facebook site

- b. Community Watch Update (2:32)
Update from Chair - Elizabeth Street Zone

A meeting was had and challenges discussed. A lot of the issues raised were landlord tenant and the legislation that guides this, individuals were apprised of proper channels to address these matters. More meetings within the zones have been arranged. The next meeting is scheduled for October and will be publicly shared advertised when a date is set.

- c. Golden Helmets Street Closure (2:36)

The Chair reviewed the report. It was noted that the Golden helmets are only doing 2 shows in 2024 and Pembroke is one of them. The OPP Plan to be involved and assist with Officers offsetting staffing costs etc.

Motion:

Moved by Christine Reavie

Seconded by Micheal St. Jean

That the Pembroke Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board endorse an expenditure of up to \$2,500 for the equipment, materials, and labour required to close Pembroke Street West on Saturday September 21, 2024.

FURTHERMORE that the PSB supports the street council on the date

Carried

9. Correspondence

- a. E-mail Concern – Renfrew Street/Moffat Street Intersection

The Chair reviewed the report and noted to the Board that through a search of OPP analytics for the area from 2022 to current, two collisions occurred, with the most recent being June 2nd which is still under investigation. It is the opinion of the OPP personnel who was contacted for the history of the area, that this is not a safety concern at this time.

DIRECTION:

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled in October and will be publicized on the City website when a date is set.

11. Motion to Adjourn

Motion:

Moved by Dezai Bair-Patel

Seconded by Christine Reavie

That the May 8, 2024, Pembroke Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Detachment Board meeting adjourn at 2:44 p.m.

Carried

Chair

Recording Secretary