

Pembroke Police Services Board Meeting

City Hall, Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
January 26, 2023
4:00 p.m.

Present:

Ron Gervais, Mayor
Patricia Lafreniere, Councillor
Malcolm Montgomery
Christine Reavie
Michael St Jean

Also Present:

Inspector Stephan Neufeld, OPP
Staff Sergeant MaryAnn MacNeil, OPP
Heidi Martin, Recording Secretary

1. Land Acknowledgment

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Secretary of the Pembroke Police Services Board called for nominations for the position of Chair for 2023. Mayor Ron Gervais was nominated and there were no further nominations.

Motion:

Moved by Christine Reavie

Seconded by Michael St. Jean

That Mayor Ron Gervais be appointed to the position of Chair of the Pembroke Police Services Board for the year 2023.

Carried

The Secretary of the Pembroke Police Services Board called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for 2023. Christine Reavie was nominated and there were no further nominations.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Lafreniere

Seconded by Mayor Gervais

That Christine Reavie be appointed to the position of Vice Chair of the Pembroke Police Services Board for the year 2023.

Carried

Mayor Gervais assumed the Chair.

3. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

4. Oath of Office

Christine Reavie, Ron Gervais, and Patricia Lafreniere completed the oath of office.

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

6. Approval of Agenda

The Chair requested that the agenda be amended with the addition of agenda item 10 d. OAPSB Proposed Zone 2 Meeting and that OAPSB Correspondence be added to agenda item 11.

Motion:

Moved by Malcolm Montgomery

Seconded by Michael St. Jean

That the agenda of the Pembroke Police Services Board meeting of January 26, 2023, be approved as amended.

Carried**7. Minutes**

- Receive minutes of October 20, 2022

Motion:

Moved by Malcolm Montgomery

Seconded by Christine Reavie

That the minutes of the Pembroke Police Services Board meeting of October 20, 2022, be received as circulated.

Carried**8. OPP Report****a. OPP Detachment Commander's Update**

- Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Year in Review

Inspector Neufeld presented the Upper Ottawa Valley OPP Year in Review. He noted the following:

- Calls for service for the year trended downwards which resulted in less billable calls for service to the City
- An Upper Ottawa Valley Cyber Crime Investigator position was launched in May 2022 which has already resulted in incredible results
- A Detachment Operations Clerk Pilot Project was initiated to remove some administrative duties from Officers allowing them to pursue other policing matters
- The Detachment is leveraging technology with the use of body cameras and automatic licence plate readers in the vehicles
- The Upper Ottawa Valley partnership with the Pembroke Regional Hospital has now resulted in two Mobile Crisis Response Teams providing coverage 7 days/week
- CamSafe was launched which has resulted in 30 registrations to date with great potential for expansion in the future

- Project Safe Trade provides a safe, well-lit location to facilitate property transactions that were arranged online
 - The detachment was successful in receiving a grant for Project Lifesaver which will be launched in 2023 to protect the vulnerable in the community
 - Community Safety and Well-Being Plan is in its final draft stages which notes the following priorities: Mental Health, Addiction & Substance Abuse, Access to Appropriate Housing, and Domestic Violence.
 - Collision Reporting Centre has made a positive impact in the area. In response to a question, the Inspector noted that the Officer dedicated to this program is an experienced officer who's salary is not paid for by local residents.
- Quarterly Report (October – December 2022)
Inspector Neufeld provided an update and noted the following items:
 - Calls for service are decreasing
 - No requests for secondary employment were received
 - Two complaints were launched however were withdrawn after investigation
 - It was noted that 'trouble with youth' and 'suspicious vehicle' calls for service seem to be up; the Inspector will review these areas and report back
 - In response to a question regarding The Grind, the Inspector indicated that he attended a meeting at the Grind as a result of complaints raised by the residents in the neighbourhood. Statements that were made specifically referenced to the Grind – garbage in my yard, drug use, defecating on neighbourhood lawns, multiple instances of cat and dog napping, etc. were never reported to the police. The OPP conducted a focussed patrol for two weeks in the area during the noted problematic times which resulted in no instances of trespassing, and no instances of drug use. Clients did smoke outside, however there was no noise. The OPP did arrest two individuals inside The Grind however the arrests were due to other causes not related to The Grind. The Grind has recently made some changes by modifying the outdoor lighting and they now have staff accompanying individuals outside when they leave the building for a smoke. The Inspector noted that the OPP does not have problems at the Grind and other than the two arrests for other causes, there were no other issues related to the complaints noted during the two weeks of focussed patrol. It was also noted that although the City has an agreement with the County of Renfrew to provide social services, no County dollars are being provided to The Grind.

9. Old Business

a. Mary Street Speed Reduction Delegation (Rotary Park area)

The Chair provided a brief review of the issues presented during a presentation at the previous meeting. The Inspector indicated that the OPP conducted a two-week focussed patrol in relation to traffic violations with no charges issued. It was noted during a discussion that agenda item 10 c. also deals with similar issues on Mary Street. With consensus of the Board, both items were combined for this discussion. The following items were noted during the discussion:

- Perhaps the City should consider using traffic slowing devices such as removable speed humps.
- The Mary Street/Trafalgar Road area has been a long-standing issue due to the high volume of traffic. This was especially noted during the construction on Pembroke Street West
- Other sections of Mary Street also have quick moving traffic.

Direction:

The Chair will send correspondence to the Director of Operations to conduct additional studies in the noted problem areas and report back to the Board.

b. Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan Update

The Chair provided a verbal update indicating that he was in contact with the Consultant who stated that the plan will be finalized this year.

9. New Business

a. 2023 Budget

- Initiatives

The Chair indicated that following the City's budget meetings, the Boards public relations budget line has been reduced by \$5,000. He noted that the budget will be finalized on February 7th. He indicated that the education and training budget remains the same. He reviewed past public relations initiatives that the Board has been involved with and asked what programs the Board would like to see in 2023.

A discussion was held with the following items noted:

- Project Safe Trade should be advertised on various social media sites especially market type sites.
- Leverage the Police Services Board Facebook site and other City of Pembroke social media sites
- Encourage more events targeted to children to encourage them to make good choices. Councillor Lafreniere will work with the Boys and Girls Club to plan an event with the OPP.
- Resurrect the Bicycle Rodeo program.

b. Honorarium

The Chair indicated that during the recent City budget meetings the Police Services Board members honorarium budget was decreased from \$21,000 to \$10,500. The budget will be finalized on February 7th.

c. Holy Name School – Trafalgar Road/Mary Street Concerns

Please refer to agenda item 9. a. as this agenda item was combined for discussion purposes with agenda item 9 a.

d. OAPSB Proposed Zone 2 Meeting

Michael St. Jean explained that he attended a OAPSB Zone 2 meeting in September of 2022 where he was approached by the Association to see if Pembroke would host a zone meeting in September 2024. Correspondence was circulated. A discussion was held with the following points were raised:

- Possibility of 50+ people attending

- Inspector Neufeld will be available to present at the meeting and will assist in the planning
- How does the City wish to promote itself?

Direction:

Michael St. Jean will work with the City's CAO Dave Unrau and Inspector Neufeld to make this event possible.

10. Correspondence

a. OAPSB Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated from the OAPSB regarding Bail Reform. There was a general consensus that the Board supports the OAPSB's position.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2023, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Motion:

Moved by Christine Reavie

Seconded by Malcolm Montgomery

That the January 26, 2023, Pembroke Police Services Board meeting adjourn at 5:47 p.m.

Carried

Chair

Recording Secretary