

## **Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**

### **Minutes of a Police Advisory Board Meeting**

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, NS

**Wednesday January 27, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.**

#### **Attendance:**

Councillor Reid Whynot, Chair

Councillor Leitha Haysom

Councillor Chasidy Veinotte

Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson

Amanda Trethewey, Member-at-Large

Dean Schmeisser, Member-at-Large, Vice-Chair

Ken Zwicker, Ministerial Appointment

Staff Sergeant Paul Coughlin, District Commander

Sergeant Mark MacPherson

#### **Staff**

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy C.A.O.

Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator

Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Board members introduced themselves.

### **2. BOARD ORIENTATION**

Mr. Dumaresq gave orientation to the Police Advisory Board, highlighting the Board functions and responsibilities, covering confidentiality, the Oaths of Office and Code of Conduct for Members. He reiterated that the Board is not able to give specific direction to the RCMP and Board meetings are a venue to get matters raised. He reported that the Department of Justice provides training for PAB members, but online training was being updated and Members would be provided information as soon as it was available.

### **3. NOMINATION AND ELECTION BY BALLOT – CHAIR & VICE CHAIR**

In accordance with the By-Law Respecting the Membership and Responsibilities of the Police Advisory Board, Section 3.3, Mr. Kennedy called for nominations, by ballot, for the position of

Chair. Those nominated by were Councillors Whynot, Haysom and Veinotte and Ken Zwicker. Councillors Haysom and Veinotte declined the nomination and on second ballot, Councillor Whynot was appointed to the position of Chair.

Councillor Whynot called for nominations, for the position of Vice Chair. Those nominated were Councillors Haysom and Veinotte, Ken Zwicker and Dean Schmeisser.

Councillor Veinotte and Ken Zwicker declined the nomination and on the third ballot, Dean Schmeisser was appointed to the position of Vice Chair.

**Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Haysom, that all ballots be destroyed.  
Carried Unanimously.**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Mr. Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Haysom, that the agenda be approved as circulated.  
Carried Unanimously.**

#### **5. PRESENTATION – David Walker, The Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance**

Mr. Walker, President of The Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG), presented to the Board. He explained that the NSAPG was a provincial body giving voice to Police Advisory Boards and Municipal Boards in the Province and is made up of representation for each region, as determined by NSAPG. Councillor Nauss, previously Chair of PAB, was formally the region's representative, the region covering Shelbourne to Halifax, excluding HRM. Mr. Walker advised that the NSAPG worked closely with the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association on governance, offered training to PAB members and advocated on behalf of the membership. Currently the group is pressuring Provincial Government for changes to the Police Act in the composition of PABs, replacing the Provincial Representative with another citizen appointment, due to the high number of representative vacancies. There is usually a Conference in September, a Spring Workshop and a meeting in November which coincides with the Nova

Scotia Federation of Municipalities Conference. Mr. Walker reported that MODL's membership was expired and recommended that membership be reapplied for, the current fee is \$400.00.

*Mr. Walker left the meeting.*

It was discussed that there could be benefits to having a voice at the Provincial Table as Lunenburg County is one of the busiest in the Province.

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Mr. Schmeisser, that the Police Advisory Board recommend to Council that the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg become a member of The Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance, current cost being \$400.00.**

**Motion carried.**

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Moved by Mr. Zwicker, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, that the minutes of the September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Police Advisory Board meeting be approved as circulated.**

**Carried Unanimously.**

## **7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

### **7.1 Speed Trailer**

It was reported that the speed trailer had been deployed a few times last year and was currently in winter storage at the Chester detachment. It was discussed that there are difficulties in the Municipality siting the trailer, and liability issues for members of the public siting the trailer. Sgt. MacPherson would address the matter with the Commander. Board members were informed that if they have suggestions for locating the trailer, these can be given directly to Sgt. MacPherson, or if constituents raise the issue, then they can talk directly to the RCMP. Requests should not wait until the next Board meeting. Blue Rocks Road and Zwicker Mill Road were both mentioned as areas where speeding was an issue. The speed trailer is solar powered and needs to be placed in a location that it is off the road and clearly visible from a distance; if Board members have suggestions for placement, these factors should

be taken into consideration. It was discussed that post-mounted speed radar signs were a very effective tool, were easier to place in speeding hotspots and could be more cost effective. It was noted that having a checkpoint or Officers present in an area has the best effect, but other duties may take precedent.

## **8. IN CAMERA**

**At 10.13 a.m. it was moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Haysom, that the Board go In Camera to discuss the following item:**

**8.1 Public Security under Section 22(2)(h) – RCMP Reports October-December 2020. Carried.**

The Police Advisory Board In Camera session.

**At 10:45 a.m. it was moved by Mr. Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Haysom, that the Board come out of In Camera and return to open session. Carried.**

The Police Advisory Board in session.

*Sgt. MacPherson left the meeting.*

## **9. BOARD MEMBER MATTERS**

### **9.1 Speeding – Highway 3 (Dean Schmeisser)**

Mr. Schmeisser advised that, as directed, he would raise the matter with Sgt. MacPherson. It was noted that post-mounted speed radar signs could be effective in locations where the shoulder was insufficiently wide to locate the speed trailer. It was reported that a group of residents were considering purchasing one for their community.

*Councillor Whynot left the meeting 11:06 a.m. and Mr. Schmeisser assumed the role of Chair.*

Costs of these devices are approximately \$5,000, but it was not known what requirements or permissions would be required for installing them. The Town of Mahone Bay could be a source of information.

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Councillor Veinotte, that the Police Advisory Board recommend to Council that Municipal Council purchase two post-mounted speed radar signs in the next fiscal year 2021/22. Carried.**

## **10. ADDED ITEMS**

### **10.1 Vacancy on Police Advisory Board**

The Board was advised that the Nominating Committee was working on the applications received for the vacancy on the Board. An update would be provided when available.

### **10.2 Representation on NSPAG**

It was noted that a Board representative had not been selected for membership on the NSPAG.

**Moved by Mayor Bolivar-Getson, seconded by Mr. Zwicker, that the Police Advisory Board recommend to Municipal Council that the Chair of the Police Advisory Board be MODL's representative on The Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance, and further that the Vice Chair of the Police Advisory Board be the alternate representative. Carried.**

**11. NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 11:14 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Councillor Haysom, that the meeting adjourn. Carried Unanimously.**