



Guelph Police Services Board

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OPEN MEETING

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 19, 2020

An Open meeting of the Guelph Police Services Board was held by teleconference call, pursuant to Guelph Police Services Board By-Law 164 (2020), on November 19, 2020 commencing at 2:30 p.m.

Present:

R. Carter, Chair	G. Cobey, Chief of Police
C. Guthrie, Member	D. Goetz, Deputy Chief of Police
C. Billings, Member	J. Sidlofsky Stoffman, Legal Services Manager
R. Curran, Member	L. Pelton, Financial Services Manager
P. McSherry, Member	K. McKeown, Human Resources Manager
C. Polonenko, Executive Assistant	

Guests: **Guelph Police Service:** Jessica Abra

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Carter called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. by teleconference call between the attendees and gave Territorial Acknowledgement.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OR PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict or pecuniary interest.

4. CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTIONS

Moved by C. Guthrie

Seconded by C. Billings

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board support the Cops and Kids Christmas Campaign in the amount of \$950.00, and

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve funding for the Guelph Community Health Centre in the amount of \$10,000.00, to be directed to the Welcoming Streets Initiative for the year 2021, with funds to be paid from the Community Account.

-CARRIED-

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS – None

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by C. Guthrie

Seconded by C. Billings

THAT the Minutes of the Open Meeting held Thursday, October 15, 2020 be approved as presented.

- CARRIED –

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by C. Billings

Seconded by P. McSherry

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve the Open Meeting agenda as presented.

-CARRIED –

Moved by C. Billings

Seconded by C. Guthrie

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board adopt **Part 1 – Consent Agenda** as identified below.

7.1 Headquarter Renovation and Expansion

That the Report titled “Police Headquarters Renovation and Expansion Project” and dated November 12, 2020, be received for information.

7.2 Board Correspondence Report

That the report titled “Open Meeting – November 19, 2020 Board Correspondence Report” be received for information.

7.3 Community Account Report

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approves an extension of the contract with the firm Tonin & Co. by one year to perform the 2021 review engagement on the Community Account, to allow sufficient time for the Board to do a full review of Policy BD-01-002, Community Account.

7.4 September 2020 Financial Variance Report

That the Report titled “September 2020 Financial Variance Report” and dated November 19, 2020, be received for information.

7.5 Human Resources Report – Member Appointments

THAT Scott Carroll be appointed as a full-time member of this Service effective November 23, 2020.

7.6 Use of Force Quarterly Report

That the report titled “Use of Force - Third Quarter” and dated November 19, 2020 be received for information.

-CARRIED-

Part 2 – Discussion Agenda

7.7 911 Calls Report

Chief Cobey encouraged the community to stay on the line if they accidentally call 911, so the operator can follow up and not waste police resources. J. Sidlofsky Stoffman reported that despite the significant educational campaign that Peel Region had, numbers of unintentional 911 calls are still increasing there. The Guelph Police Service is developing SMS text messaging similar to the OPP response process to supplement calls for contacting callers in order to reduce the number of officers required to attend these calls. A lot of communication and education is required.

7.8 2019 Crime Severity Index Report

The Board received this report for information. The Crime Severity Index (CSI) is a comparative measure calculated by Statistics Canada to provide information on the seriousness of crime occurring within a geographic area. The CSI is a measure of police-reported crime that reflects the relative seriousness of individual offences and tracks changes in crime severity. The overall CSI is determined based on the weighted calculation of a community's violent and non-violent crimes reported.

Chief Cobey reported that for the first time since 2013, the City of Guelph saw a reduction in the overall CSI. The 2019 CSI fell by 9.4% to 64.6. There were also decreases in both violent and non-violent CSI. The reduction in violent CSI is the largest decrease in Canada. In 2019, the City of Guelph had the lowest violent CSI among the 35 census metropolitan areas and ranked 15th for overall safety.

7.9 Policy Review Committee Report

The Board received the report of the Policy Review Committee.

Moved by P. McSherry

Seconded by R. Curran

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve the following policies:

BD 01-005	Board Member and Board Staff Reimbursement of Expenses
BD 02-002	Long Service Recognition Program
BD 02-006	Guidance for Employment of Civilian Members
BD 04-005	Court Security and Prisoner Care and Control
BD 04-012	Public Order Maintenance
BD 04-023	Search of Premises
BD 04-026	Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms
BD 04-028	General Marked Patrol Vehicles
BD 04-030	Use of Volunteers
BD 04-034	Use of Force
BD-04-040	Collection of Identifying Information

AND THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve the following amendment to Section 16.1(a) of Guelph Police Services Board By-law 136 (2009): *“The delegation(s) shall provide written notice of their request at least **four (4) days** before the date of the Board meeting **subject to the time limit being waived by the Chair of the Board**. The request shall also include a list of person(s) who will be appearing before the Board and a copy of the materials to be presented.”*

-CARRIED-

7.10 Chief’s Monthly Report

Chief Cobey provided his monthly report for information.

- 1) The GPS Budget was presented to City Council on November 17th.
- 2) This year to date, there have been 70,201 calls for service, and 53,078 of those were since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. He thanked the members of the Service for their hard work, community partners and members of the community, as we navigate through difficult times.
- 3) On November 5, 2020, Mike Schreiner spoke at Queens Park and highlighted the work of the Impact team and the GPS relationship with Impact. Helen Fishburn of the Canadian Mental Health Association has relayed the news that additional funding will be provided for the Impact team, which will serve to assist in reaching the goal to provide the right care to our community 24/7.
- 4) Chief Cobey will be participating in upcoming Ward 4 and Ward 1 Townhall meetings and invited board and community members to tune in.

7.11 New Business - There was no new business noted.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Next Open Meeting: Thursday, December 10, 2020, 2:30 p.m. (virtual)
- Ontario Association of Police Services Boards Spring Conference – May 26-29, 2021

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by C. Guthrie

Seconded by C. Guthrie

THAT the Open meeting of the Guelph Police Services Board adjourn as at 3:00 p.m.

- CARRIED –

The minutes of this meeting were adopted this 10th day of December, 2020.

“R. Carter”

R. Carter , Chair

“C. Polonenko”

C. Polonenko, Executive Assistant