



WOODSTOCK POLICE SERVICES BOARD

The Woodstock Police Services Board met on June 14, 2021 at Woodstock Police Service headquarters and via ZOOM at 3:00 p.m.

Present were: Ken Whiteford, Provincial Appointee; Mayor Trevor Birtch, Provincial Appointee; Balwant Rai, Community Member; Leslie Farrell, Provincial Appointee; Deb Tait, City Councilor and Amy Hartley, WPSB EA.

Also in attendance were Chief Daryl Longworth, Deputy Chief Rod Wilkinson, Kristi Lampman, Human Resources Coordinator, Marci Shelton, Inspector (attended at 3:15 pm), Kevin Talsma, Acting Inspector, and Kathleen Saylor, Woodstock Sentinel Review

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ken WHITEFORD called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. WELCOME

Ken WHITEFORD welcomed everyone.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The addition of correspondence as Item 8A received from the Ministry of the Solicitor General in regards to proposed changes to relevant regulations (a copy of which is attached to these minutes).

Moved by Deb TAIT

Seconded by Trevor BIRTCH

Resolved that the Board approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED.

4. There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

5. MINUTES

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of May 10, 2021 as circulated.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

7. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHAIR

- The Chair wanted to extend gratitude to the Woodstock Police Service and the auxiliary for keeping the peace at the May 30 lockdown protest/event.

8. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHIEF

- The Chief provided condolences to the RCMP Officer who was killed in the line of duty this past weekend.
- The Chief also provided condolences to the Muslim community as we grieve with them over the horrific incident that occurred in London, Ontario recently.
- He noted that the traffic unit has a number of on-going initiatives including those involving commercial vehicles and working alongside the OPP on the City's borders.
- He indicated that the Community Safety and Well Being Plan has been completed and still requires review from some municipalities. There are four priorities noted throughout being: mental health, substance abuse, affordable housing, and diversity and inclusion.
- The Chief addressed homelessness which continues to be an area of focus for the WPS. Comments are being received and responded to, however this is not a specific police enforcement issue. He mentioned that homelessness is a failure of our social systems and its supports. The pandemic has played a significant role on increased homelessness in our community. He indicated that providing money, arresting and ticketing those who are being complained about will not solve the issue. The WPS are looking to respond in a meaningful way by contributing to those social programs as much as they can.
- Acting Inspector Talsma provided an overview of the Sexual Assault Review Committee and their efforts. He noted that in February 2017 the

Globe and Mail published an article about how sexual assault investigations were being cleared and it was found that the investigations were cleared off as unfounded. As a result of this the government came up with new clearing categories, at the time Ontario had clearing rate of 25%.

- K. Talsma noted that an audit of all sexual assault cases within WPS was completed and the unfounded percentage rate was around 22%. Once the new categories were put in place a further audit was completed and the rate dropped to 18%, between the years of 2015-2020 the rate dropped further to 15%. The SARC was implemented to include agencies from the community who deal with victims of sexual assault (DASO, Fanshawe College etc.) to attend a few days of the year to review recent incidents to see whether the incident is unfounded or not and provide suggestions on how the investigations were conducted. Currently 12 members are trained on the SARC and the official launch will be September 7, 2021.
- Inspector Shelton provided insight to the Board on the Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI) wherein funding is received from the Ministry to hire a student from a local high school between the ages of 15-18 to be employed by the WPS over the summer months. This student receives knowledge and experience of the WPS and help within the community and participate in various programs. Some of the programs that the student will partake in this year include: shadowing dispatch, the Lock It or Lose It campaign, a local youth drop in depending on COVID restrictions, a drugs and alcohol research program, First Aid and CPR Course, summer youth baseball through the Canadian Tie Jumpstart Program. The program as a whole provides an emphasis on community rather policing.
- The Chief advised the Board that he has provided his name to the Association of Chief of Police to potentially be elected for a second term as vice president, the voting will take place at the annual general meeting.

8A. CORRESPONDENCE

Late correspondence was received from the Ministry of the Solicitor General dated June 14, 2021. K. Whiteford suggested that the Board refer to the Chief for comments and assistance on the categories that should be commented on. There is a deadline of July 26, 2021 to receive comments.

Moved by: Deb TAIT

Seconded by: Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board refer the June 14, 2021 letter from the Ministry to the Chief for comment.

CARRIED.

9. STATISTICS/REPORTS – Deputy WILKINSON

- A) Calls for Service Statistics
- B) Calls for Service Report
- C) Charge Comparison Report
- D) Report on Complaint Investigations

Moved by Trevor BIRTCH

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the Board receive all statistics and reports presented in Item 9.

CARRIED.

10. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Moved by Deb TAIT

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the financial statements ending May 31, 2021 in Item 11.

CARRIED.

11. 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

- The Chief provided the 2020 Annual Report final draft to the Board for their final comments before presentation to council. The Chief provided acknowledgement to Shaylyn Jackson who prepared the report and complimented her for producing a very professional and personable issue of the report.
- T. Birtch noted that his title needed to be changed to "Interim Chair". T. Birtch also complimented the report, noting that it has a look of ease and is one of the best reports he has seen.
- K. Whiteford commented that the timing of the report is punctual.

Moved by: Deb TAIT

Seconded by: Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the 2020 Annual Report subject to the edit requested by the Board to amend the title of T. Birtch's position, and accept that 2020 Annual Report as amended.

CARRIED.

12. PAY EQUITY PLAN

Moved by: Trevor BIRTCH

Seconded by: Deb TAIT

Resolved That the board receives the report on the selection of ML Consulting as a consultant to assist the WPS/WPA joint evaluation committee in the maintenance of the WPS Job Evaluation Plan.

CARRIED.

13. COMMITMENT TO PREVENTION OF WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT

Moved by: Deb TAIT

Seconded by: Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the board authorize the Chair to sign the attached Commitments to the Prevention of Workplace Violence and Harassment and Health and Safety.

CARRIED.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the Board adjourns to Closed Session at 4:01 pm to discuss intimate financial or personal matters or other matters may be disclosed of such a nature, having regard to the circumstances, that the desirability of avoiding their disclosure in the interest of any person affected or in the public interest outweighs the desirability of adhering to the principle that proceedings be open to the public. R.S.O. 1990, c.P15, s.35 of the Ontario Police Services Act.

CARRIED.

16. CLOSED SESSION RISES

Moved by Trevor BIRTCH

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the Board does now rise from Closed Session and reconvenes at 4:20 pm.

CARRIED.

17. MOTIONS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION - # 1 - # 7

CLOSED SESSION # 1 - CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Trevor BIRTCH

Resolved that the Board approve the Closed Session Agenda as circulated.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 2 - PERSONNEL REPORTS a) STAFFING REPORT
b) STAFFING ACTIVITY

Moved by Balwant RAI

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the Board receives for information the Staffing Report and Staffing Activity Report dated as of May 31, 2021.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 3 - OVERTIME - CHIEF

Moved by Deb TAIT

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the monthly tracking report for information.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 4 - STATUS OF LEGAL CASES - CHIEF

Moved by Deb TAIT

Seconded by Balwant RAI

Resolved that the Board receive the updates presented in Item #4.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 5 – Retirement Agreement – PC Paul Hill

Moved by Trevor BIRTCH

Seconded by Deb TAIT

Resolved that the board authorize the Chair to sign the attached Retirement Agreement between WPSB, WPA and PC Paul Hill.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 6 – OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CLOSED SESSION #7– OTHER ITEMS IF NECESSARY

None.

18. NEW BUSINESS

19. Date of Next Board Meeting MONDAY, September 13, 2021 at 3pm
at the Woodstock Police Service Headquarters.

20. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deb TAIT

Seconded by Balwant RAI

resolved that the Board does now adjourn at 4:25 pm

CARRIED.

Ken Whiteford, Chair
Woodstock Police Service Board

Trevor Birtch, Vice-Chair
Woodstock Police Service Board