



WOODSTOCK POLICE SERVICE BOARD

The Woodstock Police Service Board met on April 13, 2026 at Woodstock Police Service Headquarters and via ZOOM at 3:00 p.m.

Present were: Ken Whiteford, Provincial Appointee; Mayor Jerry Acchione, Council Representative; Connie Lauder, Council Representative; Daryl Stevenson, Community Appointee; and Kristin Barnim, WPSB EA; and Leslie Farrell, Provincial Appointee joined via Zoom at 3:15 p.m.

Also in attendance was Deputy Chief Jamie Taylor; and Chief Nick Novacich joined via Zoom.

Regrets: David Tilley, Zone 4 Police Advisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Whiteford called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. WELCOME

Chair Whiteford welcomed everyone.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board approve the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED.

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2026

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of March 9, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

7. STRATEGY CORP PRESENTATION

Two representatives from Strategy Corp delivered a presentation to the Board outlining their process for assisting with the development of a Strategic Plan.

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board request Strategy Corp to provide a detailed cost estimate to do a Strategic Plan for the Board with the understanding that the Plan preparation would commence as soon as possible and be completed and adopted by the Board before the end of October 2026.

CARRIED.

8. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHAIR

- Chair Whiteford reminded Board Members of the upcoming Ontario Association of Police Service Board Spring Conference in Niagara Falls in June and asked those interested to contact Kristin for registration and accommodations.
- Chair Whiteford took a moment to officially welcome Deputy Chief Taylor in his new capacity.

9. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHIEF

- March 8th was International Women's Day. The Woodstock Police Service (WPS) recognizes and celebrates the incredible women of the Service who play a vital role in keeping the community safe.
- On March 10 WPS Officers hit the court for some friendly basketball games with the Woodstock Thunder Special Olympics Basketball team. The WPS is proud to support Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run, working alongside athletes and partners to promote inclusion, opportunity, and respect through sport.
- Chief Novacich advised that in early 2026, the WPS Street Crime Unit (SCU), formerly known as the Criminal Intelligence and Drug Enforcement Unit, began an investigation into the trafficking of illegal drugs within the City. As a result, on March 4 at approximately 12:30 p.m., officers arrested a 51-year-old female and a 40-year-old male,

both of Woodstock. Both individuals were jointly charged with the offences of Possession of a Schedule I Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking fentanyl and cocaine, and Possession of Proceeds of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5000. Officers seized \$1,380 in cocaine, \$1,232 in fentanyl and \$1,690 in currency.

- Woodstock Police Service continues to focus on traffic enforcement and road safety throughout the community. Officers have laid several charges in five separate incidents involving suspended driving, dangerous driving behaviours, and related offences. Chief Novacich reminded drivers that operating a vehicle while suspended, uninsured or engaging in dangerous driving behaviours can result in significant penalties, including vehicle impoundment, licence suspension, and court proceedings
- The WPS is pleased to welcome four Conestoga College co-op placement students from the Advances Police Studies program. As well as a student from the Bachelor of Community and Criminal Justice program at Conestoga College.
- On March 9th, officers responded to a report of a suspected firearm discharge into a residence in the area of Frontenac Crescent. As a result of the investigation, a 37-year-old male and a 36-year-old female, both from Woodstock, were arrested and jointly charged with the following offences: Discharge a Firearm into or at a Place in a Reckless Manner, Careless Use of a Firearm (two counts), Mischief Endangering Life, Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose (two counts), Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm, and Possession of a Prohibited or Restricted Firearm with Ammunition. The male was also charged with Obstruct Peace Officer.
- Chief Novacich advised that the WPS is continuing to investigate the death of a 24-year-old male at a residence in the area of Dundas Street and Bexley Street. The circumstances surrounding the death are considered suspicious due to foul play. At this time, there is no known risk to public safety.
- As a result of a preliminary investigation, members of the WPS Internet Child Exploitation Unit and Criminal Investigation Branch, with assistance from the Ontario Provincial Police Child Sexual Exploitation Unit, arrested a 31-year-old male of Woodstock on March 10th. The male was charged with a number of offences and has previous convictions for accessing and distributing child pornography. The WPS

is a member of the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet and conducts investigations into Internet child exploitation offences in partnership with numerous police services across Ontario.

- Chief Novacich congratulated Constable Hadleigh Emerson for successfully graduating from Basic Constable Training at the Ontario Police College.
- March was Social Worker Month. Chief Novacich recognized the impact of the Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (MHEART) Crisis Clinicians and the difference they make in the community every single day. They work alongside officers to support individuals experiencing mental health and crisis-related situations, providing immediate assessment, de-escalation, and connections to appropriate services, often preventing the need for hospital involvement or further intervention. In 2025, MHEART supported more than 300 individuals through live police calls and resolved more than 250 interactions on scene.

10. STATISTICS/REPORTS – DEPUTY CHIEF JAMIE TAYLOR

- A) Calls for Service Statistics
- B) Calls for Service Report
- C) Charge Comparison Report
- D) Other reports as necessary

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board receive all statistics and reports presented in Item 10.

CARRIED.

11. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board receive the financial statements ending December 31, 2025.

CARRIED.

12. PTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board approve the sponsorship in the amount of \$250 to support the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Golf Tournament in

support of First Responders Extended Network and that the funds come from the Public Relations Reserve Fund.
CARRIED.

13. 2026 ZOOM SUBSCRIPTION EXPENSE

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board approve payment in the amount of \$259.79 for the 2026 Zoom Subscription due May 7, 2026.

CARRIED.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board adjourns to Closed Session at 4:01 p.m. to discuss the security of the property of the Board, personal matters about identifiable individuals, labour relations or employee negotiations, and litigation or potential litigation affecting the Board, including matters before administrative tribunals pursuant to S. 44(2)(a), (b), (d), and (e) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1*, respectively, 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.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION RISES

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board does now rise from Closed Session and reconvenes at 4:36 p.m.

CARRIED.

16. MOTIONS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION - # 1 - # 10

CLOSED SESSION # 1 - CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

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

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 2 - PERSONNEL REPORTS a) STAFFING REPORT

b) STAFFING ACTIVITY – CHIEF

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board receive for information the Staffing Report and Staffing Activity Report dated as of April 13, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 3 - OVERTIME - CHIEF

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

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

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 4 – STATUS OF LEGAL CASES

Information only.

CLOSED SESSION # 5 – BOARD MEMO – APPOINTMENT OF H. E.

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board formally appoint H.E. as a police officer with the Woodstock Police Service as of March 26, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 6 – BOARD MEMO – APPOINTMENT OF A.B.

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board formally appoint A.B. as a police officer with the Woodstock Police Service as of April 27, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 7 – NOTICE OF RESIGNATION – A.M.

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the resignation letter from A.M.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 8 – NOTICE OF RESIGNATION – L.S.

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the resignation letter from L.S.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 9 – BOARD MEMO – TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT – L.S.

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board formally terminate the Special Constable appointment of L.S. as of April 11, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 10 – OTHER ITEMS AS NECESSARY

Mayor Acchione advised the Board of a phone call he received today regarding the storage of a police vehicle. An explanation was provided by the Chief regarding the background of the call. No motions arose from the discussion.

17. NEW BUSINESS

Resolved that a Strategic Plan Committee be established consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Mayor Acchione, and Connie Lauder as an alternate.

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

CARRIED.

18. Date of Next Board Meeting Monday, May 11, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at the Woodstock Police Service Headquarters.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board does now adjourn at 4:44 p.m.

CARRIED.

"Original Signed by"

Ken Whiteford, Chair
Woodstock Police Service Board

"Original Signed by"

Leslie Farrell, Vice Chair

Woodstock Police Service Board