



WOODSTOCK POLICE SERVICE BOARD

The Woodstock Police Service Board met on September 14, 2026 at Woodstock Police Service Headquarters and via ZOOM at 3:00 p.m.

Present were: Ken Whiteford, Provincial Appointee; Leslie Farrell, Provincial Appointee; Mayor Jerry Acchione, Council Representative; Connie Lauder, Council Representative; Daryl Stevenson, Community Appointee; and Kristin Barnim, WPSB EA.

Also in attendance were Chief Nick Novacich; and Jamie Taylor, Inspector. Kristi Lampman, Human Resources Coordinator; and David Tilley, Zone 4 Police Advisor joined via Zoom.

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 Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board approve the agenda as circulated and amended.

Amendments:

- i. Amended to remove the auditor presentation (Item 9) and put the operating budget and the capital budget from the closed session agenda in its place as Items 9 a and b.*

CARRIED.

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 8, 2026

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of June 8, 2026 as circulated.
CARRIED.

6. APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – MAY 14, 2026

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board approve the Strategic Plan Committee minutes of May 14, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED.

7. APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2026

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board approve the Strategic Plan Committee minutes of June 8, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Mayor mentioned that Operation Sharing extended a thank you to the Board and would like to potentially attend the October meeting of the Board.

9. A) 2027 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

That the Board approve the WPS 2027 Draft Operating Budget as presented by the Chief with a proposed 6.27% increase.

CARRIED.

B) BOARD MEMO – CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST 2027

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board approve the Woodstock Police Service 2026 Capital Budget outlined in #1 to #6 of the report in the amount of \$777,500.

CARRIED.

10. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHAIR

- Chair Whiteford reminded everyone of the Zone 4 Meeting in Halton on Wednesday. Carpooling arrangements were made.

11. VERBAL REPORT FROM CHIEF

- Members of the Woodstock Police Service enjoyed a pair of community appreciation events celebrating the dedication of first responders and healthcare professionals. Chief Novacich thanked Rapid Relief Team CA (RRT) for hosting a barbecue at Woodstock Hospital in support of healthcare professionals and first responders, and United Way Oxford and Woodingford Lodge for their “Thank a First Responder” ice cream stand.
- Members of the Woodstock Police Service joined police services from across Ontario at the Ontario Police Suicide Memorial Ceremony to honour and remember police members lost to suicide and reflected on their service. Woodstock honoured our own member Rick Sziklai who died by suicide March 14, 2025. The ceremony was a reminder of the importance of supporting the mental health and wellbeing of those who serve.
- On June 19th, the Chief and Deputy attended the March Past Ceremonies at OPC for new officers Constable Riley Schnurr and Constable Sam Young. Chief Novacich congratulated the new officers on this important milestone.
- Chief Novacich thanked all the children, parents, volunteers, and community partners who joined the Woodstock Police Service for Cops and Kids Fishing, a day filled with fishing, laughter, and great conversations. The Chief gave a heartfelt thank you to the many individuals and organizations whose generosity and support made this event possible. The Deweerd Family for generously providing the pond and property; copsandkids.ca for fishing equipment and swag; Scott’s No Frills for providing food; Canada’s Outdoor Farm Show for picnic tables; Roslin for trailers, BBQs, garbage cans, and coolers; Angling Outfitters for fishing equipment; Natural Sports for fishing prizes; Bass Pro Shops for fishing swag; Woodstock Pickle Ball Association for their donation; Canadian Tire Woodstock for fishing equipment; Lyndon Fishing Pond for prizes; Woodstock Police Association for its generous financial donation; Ontario Police Association for its generous financial donation; National Bait Inc. for supplying worms; Grace Presbyterian Church for providing dedicated volunteers and; Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Enforcement Branch for hosting an educational booth.

- Members of the Woodstock Police Service stood alongside policing partners from across Ontario to honour the life, service, and sacrifice of Marc Pinizzotto. Chief Novacich extended our deepest condolences to Constable Pinizzotto's family, friends, and colleagues at the Toronto Police Service. His dedication to serving his community and his ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten.
- Members of the Woodstock Police Service were in attendance at Southside Park for the Canada Day celebrations and the celebration of the City of Woodstock's 125th anniversary. The event had thousands in attendance and the WPS was able to deploy for the first time the newly acquired WPS Mobile Command Post. This vehicle is a used RV that was donated by Fanshawe College's Emergency Management Unit. The vehicle became surplus within their Fleet and the WPS is grateful to have been considered by their partners at Fanshawe to repurpose this vehicle for use in the City.
- In July, WPS partnered with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 55 Woodstock to help support veterans in our community. Through this partnership, WPS officers can help connect veterans who may be experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, financial hardship, or other difficult circumstances with veteran-specific resources and supports. Chief Novacich thanked the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 55 Woodstock for working with WPS to help ensure veterans are identified, supported, and connected to the help they deserve.
- Woodstock launched Next Generation 9-1-1. NG9-1-1 is a major upgrade to Canada's emergency communication network, providing a more modern, secure and reliable digital system to support emergency response in our community. The new system provides improves location accuracy and faster sharing of critical information with emergency responders. Chief Novacich advised that there is no change to how you call 9-1-1.
- Chief Novacich advised that recently, two Woodstock Police Service officers were recognized with St. John Life-Saving Awards for their actions while responding to emergency calls involving infants. Constable Wubs was recognized for assisting in the resuscitation of an infant in 2024, and Constable Bezzo was recognized for reviving an infant in 2025. Both officers performed life-saving measures including chest compressions, during these critical incidents.

- Following numerous complaints from the public regarding suspected drug use and trafficking in Woodstock's downtown core, the Woodstock Police Service conducted several targeted enforcement initiatives between July 2 and 13. As a result, officers arrested multiple individuals, laid several drug and Criminal Code charges, and seized and recovered: approximately 29.1 grams of suspected fentanyl, representing an estimated 291 potentially lethal doses, approximately 1.8 grams of suspected crack cocaine, more than \$1,000 in Canadian currency, a digital scale and items associated with drug consumption, and a folding knife.
- On August 5 at approximately 10:00 a.m., a Woodstock Police Service officer conducting bike patrols in the downtown area located two individuals in an alley near Dundas Street and Huron Street. During separate interactions, the officer seized approximately five grams of suspected fentanyl, along with drug-use paraphernalia. The substances were seized for destruction.
- Members of the Woodstock Police Service were proud to support Tim Hortons Camp Day and the important work of Tim Hortons Foundation Camps. The Woodstock Police Association proudly donated \$1,000 to help provide youth from underserved communities with access to life-changing camp experiences that build confidence, leadership, resilience and a stronger sense of belonging. Chief Novacich thanked Tim Hortons and Tim Hortons Foundation Camps for the meaningful work they do for youth across Canada.
- In August, members of the Woodstock Police Service Community Response Unit spent time fishing with residents of Woodingford Lodge Long Term Care. The event provided an opportunity for meaningful conversations, companionship and engagement outside of a traditional policing environment.
- In collaboration with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oxford County, Woodstock Police Service members spent the week providing local youth with positive experiences, new friendships, and opportunities to learn more about policing, public safety and emergency services. Chief Novacich gave a special thank you to WPS' public safety and emergency response partners at Canada Border Services Agency in Sarnia, the Woodstock Fire Department and Oxford County Paramedic Services for welcoming the campers and helping make the week educational, engaging and memorable. He also extended gratitude to sponsors and community supports who helped make the camp

possible: Willow Lake Campground and RV Park for providing food and the use of its facilities; the Deweerd family for the use of their property; Whisk & Roll Bakery, Todd's Dogs and Boston Pizza Woodstock for providing meals during the camp.

- Chief Novacich advised residents of a recent increase in vehicle thefts, particularly involving motorcycles. During the month of July, 14 vehicles were reported stolen in Woodstock, including six motorcycles. Over the same period, police recovered 10 stolen vehicles, although the recovered vehicles were not necessarily connected to the July thefts. Motorcycle owners are encouraged to take extra precautions: park inside a locked garage or secure structure overnight whenever possible; use a quality disc lock, wheel lock or heavy-duty chain secured to an immovable object; use multiple anti-theft devices to make the motorcycle difficult to move; consider installing a concealed GPS tracking device; park in a well-lit, visible area covered by security cameras; never leave keys in or near the motorcycle; record the VIN, licence plate and identifying features, and keep current photographs of the motorcycle; residents are also reminded to lock their vehicles, remove valuables and report suspicious activity immediately; and make your vehicle difficult to steal by having a few extra security measures to prevent an easy opportunity for thieves.
- Chief Novacich shared the new look of the Woodstock Police Service Fleet. Since transitioning back to a white vehicle, it was time to update the graphic scheme on the vehicles. The graphic scheme came from designs that officers put forward as to what they wanted to see in a new look cruiser. Credit for the new look should be given to the officers that came forward with their ideas.

12. 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 12.

CARRIED.

13. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Daryl STEVENSON

Resolved that the Board receive the financial statements ending August 31, 2026.

CARRIED.

14. WPSB SPONSORSHIP TO THE JEFF PINCOMBE CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board approve the attached sponsorship in the amount of \$1000 to support the Jeff Pincombe Charity Golf Tournament.

CARRIED.

15. BOARD REPORT NO. 02-2026

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board approve that the Director of Administrative Services for the City of Woodstock be provided with the access required to fully manage the Canada Revenue Agency accounts for the Woodstock Police Service Board, Account Number 84498 6661.

CARRIED.

16. BOARD REPORT NO. 03-2026

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board adopt the City of Woodstock Strategic Asset Management Policy AS011 as the policy of the Woodstock Police Service Board and that the policy be utilized for all assets as defined within the policy.

CARRIED.

17. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

18. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Daryl STEVENSON

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board adjourns to Closed Session at 4:25 p.m. to discuss personal matters about identifiable individuals, labour relations or employee negotiations, and financial information supplied in confidence to the Board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly

the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization, pursuant to S. 44(2)(b), (d), and (h) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, respectively; and that in all circumstances, 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.

Board Member, Daryl Stevenson, and Dave Tilley departed the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION RISES

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board does now rise from Closed Session and reconvenes at 4:56 p.m.

CARRIED.

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

CLOSED SESSION # 1 - CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

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

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 2 - PERSONNEL REPORTS a) STAFFING REPORT

b) STAFFING ACTIVITY – CHIEF

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board receive for information the Staffing Report and Staffing Activity Report dated as of September 14, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 3 - OVERTIME - CHIEF

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

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

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 4 – POLICE EXPENSE BUDGET DASHBOARD
AUGUST 31, 2026

Information only. Going forward this item will be added to the summary in open session.

CLOSED SESSION # 5 – BOARD REPORT – BOARD APPOINTMENT OF
SPECIAL CONSTABLE Z.J.

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board formally appoint Z.J. as a Special Constable with the Woodstock Police Service as of September 14, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 6 – BOARD REPORT – BOARD APPOINTMENT OF
SPECIAL CONSTABLE L.S.

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board formally appoint L.S. as a Special Constable with the Woodstock Police Service as of September 14, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 7 – BOARD REPORT – BOARD APPOINTMENT OF
AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Jerry ACCHIONE

Resolved that the Board formally appoint the individuals contained in the report dated June 22, 2026 as Auxiliary Members with the Woodstock Police Service as of June 22, 2026.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 8 – BOARD REPORT – TERMINATION OF
APPOINTMENTS – AUXILIARY MEMBERS

Moved by Leslie FARRELL

Seconded by Connie LAUDER

Resolved that the Board formally terminates the appointments of Auxiliary Members A.T. and M.A. from the Woodstock Police Service as of August 31 and September 4, 2026, respectively.

CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 9 – NOTICE OF RESIGNATION – N.M.

Moved by Jerry ACCHIONE

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board receive the resignation letter from N.M.
CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION # 10 – OTHER ITEMS AS NECESSARY

None.

20. NEW BUSINESS

None.

21. Date of Next Board Meeting Monday, October 19, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at the Woodstock Police Service Headquarters.

22. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Connie LAUDER

Seconded by Leslie FARRELL

Resolved that the Board does now adjourn at 4:59 p.m.

CARRIED.

"Original Signed by"

Ken Whiteford, Chair
Woodstock Police Service Board

"Original Signed by"

Leslie Farrell, Vice Chair
Woodstock Police Service Board