



**MINUTES**  
**Community Policing Advisory Committee**

September 18, 2019  
9:00am  
Council Chambers, Town Hall

Committee Members Present: Councillor Winter  
Mayor Strathdee  
Doug Diplock  
Jacqueline Hibbert

Committee Members Absent: Paul Dunseith

Stratford Police Services Present: Chief Greg Skinner  
Deputy Chief Gerald Foster

Staff Present: Brent Kittmer, Secretary  
Jenna McCartney, Deputy Clerk  
Morgan Dykstra, Public Works Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Winter called the meeting to order at 9:11 am.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

**3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**Moved By** Doug Diplock

**Seconded By** Jacqueline Hibbert

**THAT** the September 18, 2019 Community Policing Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Moved By** Mayor Strathdee

**Seconded By** Doug Diplock

**THAT** the minutes of June 19, 2020 Community Policing Advisory Committee be approved and signed by the Chair and Secretary.

**CARRIED**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**5.1 Update - Notice of Motion from Council re: 40 km/h and 60 km/h zones**

Brent Kittmer spoke to the notice of motion and stated that a report back to Council is pending. Information will be provided to the Committee once it is available.

**5.2 Update - Staff report regarding speed limits in the downtown core**

Morgan Dykstra spoke to the downtown speed limit information and stated that a report back will occur in October to the Committee prior to Council review.

**6. DELEGATIONS**

None.

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 Monthly Policing Report**

Deputy Chief Foster spoke to June, July and August monthly operations reports.

In response to questions raised by committee members, Deputy Chief Foster and Chief Skinner provided the following points of clarification:

- Domestic violence statistics are typically related to family issues, and not violence between intimate couples.
- The reported overdose was actually an attempted suicide.
- Most break and enters are crimes of opportunity where homes, cars, and sheds are left unlocked. Unsecured bikes represent the highest instance of theft.
- Speeding is consistently the highest traffic ticket that is enforced in St. Marys.
- Police efforts in collaboration with Stratford Social services appears to be having a positive impact on calls for service to 270 Queen Street.
- There are no specific civilian complaints regarding policing in St. Marys.

- An overview of how monthly policing costs are charges to St. Marys was provided. At this point in time, the primary risks to costs increases would be due to Police Services Association negotiations, and reduced funding from the province for prisoner transport and security.

**Moved By** Jacqueline Hibbert

**Seconded By** Doug Diplock

**THAT** the June, July, and August 2019 monthly policing reports be received for information.

**CARRIED**

#### **7.1.1 Monthly Operations Report - June 2019**

#### **7.1.2 Monthly Operations Report - July 2019**

#### **7.1.3 Monthly Operations Report - August 2019**

### **7.2 Monthly Crime Stoppers Report**

Chief Skinner reported that the Huron and Perth Crime Stoppers have amalgamated as one entity. Chief Skinner spoke to the July 2019 monthly report.

**Moved By** Mayor Strathdee

**Seconded By** Doug Diplock

**THAT** the July 2019 monthly Crime Stoppers report be received for information.

**CARRIED**

### **7.3 Verbal Update - Summer Bike Patrol**

Deputy Chief Forest provided a verbal report on the summer bike patrol. Many positive comments have been received about the presence. Officer Keating was deployed on the bike two to three days per week, approximately four hours per day.

**Moved By** Mayor Strathdee

**Seconded By** Jacqueline Hibbert

**THAT** the verbal update about the summer bike patrol be received.

**CARRIED**

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **9.1 Committee Members' Reports on Community Concerns**

#### **9.1.1 T. Winter - Homelessness and Loitering**

Chair Winter spoke to the current situation of homelessness and loitering in St. Marys and asked the police to provide a briefing on the situation.

Chief Skinner stated that the police service is well aware of the situation and is working with a number of local agencies to combat homelessness within Stratford and St. Marys. Current statistics from social services agencies indicate there are approximately 150 homeless individuals in the Stratford area. Chief Skinner provided an update on the Mobile Crisis Repaid Response Team This includes a shared social services worker who completes ride-along with both the Stratford Police Service and the OPP on a rotational basis. As well, an Intensive Case Management initiative is being implemented. The police service has submitted a grant application that would support infrastructure needs related to supporting at risk individuals.

Chief Skinner clarified that despite public desires for these individuals to be detained and transferred out of the community, the police cannot take this action and arrest any individual arbitrarily. The intervention model employed by the police is to try to develop a relationship with the individuals, and to connect them with the necessary supports. Chief Skinner advised the committee that it is a common misconception in the public that the police can invoke more power/intervention than they are legally allowed to.

Finally, Chief Skinner sited that the police service is investigating opportunities to utilize the Cannabis Funding for social awareness.

#### **9.1.2 T. Winter - Recent Break and Enters**

Chair Winter spoke to recent concerns of break and enters that have been expressed through social media and requested a briefing from the police.

Deputy Chief Foster stated that most of the time individuals breaking into vehicles and private property tends to be when a vehicle or home is left unlocked, or when valuables are visible.

Deputy Chief Foster reiterated the need to keep valuables out of sight and to lock property. Deputy Chief Foster further stressed that the public needs to call when they have been the victim of a crime and that the public cannot rely on simply posting their concerns to social media.

**10. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Chair Winter reviewed the upcoming meeting dates as presented on the agenda.

The Committee will reschedule the November meeting to Wednesday, November 27 at 9:00 am.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Jacqueline Hibbert  
**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

THAT this meeting of the Community Policing Advisory Committee be adjourned at 10:10 am.

**CARRIED**

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Chair Winter

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Brent Kittmer, CAO / Clerk, Secretary