



MINUTES
Community Policing Advisory Committee

March 17, 2021
9:00 am
Video Conference

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

Stratford Police Services Present: Chief Greg Skinner
Deputy Chief Foster
Community Resources Officer Aaron Mounfield

Staff Present: Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenna McCartney, Clerk

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Winter

Seconded By Paul Dunseith

THAT the March 17, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Moved By Jacqui Hibbert

Seconded By Paul Dunseith

THAT the February 17, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chair and the Secretary.

CARRIED

5. REPORTS

5.1 CRIME STOPPERS REPORT

Chief Skinner presented the February 2021 Crime Stoppers report.

Moved By Paul Dunseith

Seconded By Jacqui Hibbert

THAT the February 2021 Crime Stoppers report be received.

CARRIED

5.2 POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS

Deputy Chief Foster presented the February 2021 police report.

In response to Councillor Winter's inquiry about the Stratford Police Service's access to vehicles such as snowmobiles, Deputy Chief Foster stated that the Service has agreements in place with other police services for access to vehicles.

In response to Paul Dunseith's inquiry about the impact to future training through the Ontario Police College, Deputy Chief Foster stated there will be an impact although minimal.

Chief Skinner stated that not all training has been affected as some is being delivered by virtual means at present.

In response to Chair Diplock's inquiry about the types of fraud being committed, Deputy Chief Foster stated the intention is usually to collect personal information.

In response to Chair Diplock's statement that false alarms are increasing, Deputy Chief Foster stated he does not have specifics about these situations at this time.

In response to Chair Diplock's inquiry about the extent of diversity training, Deputy Chief Foster stated that it is an annual requalification process.

Moved By Councillor Winter

Seconded By Paul Dunseith

THAT the February 2021 Police Monthly Statistics report be received.

CARRIED

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 2021 Policing Budget and Capital Plan

Brent Kittmer introduced the budget to the Committee. Council has received a global estimate prior to the receipt of the 2021 policing budget and capital plan.

In response to Mayor Strathdee's inquiry about the timeline for body cameras to be operational, Deputy Chief Foster stated that earlier this year, the Stratford Police Service Board approved the Service's use of body cameras for its members. The Service is in the phase one of implementation which involves drafting of policies related to the use of body cameras. Phase two will include the soft launch to the community resources members of the Service followed by an internal review to determine rollout. Phase three involving the full rollout of the program is expected by the end of 2021.

Deputy Chief Foster stated that the price per camera is approximately \$400 USD plus the licensing requirements which is significant. For the initial rollout of the program, cameras will be shared amongst the platoons to maintain a more cost-effective rollout.

In response to Chair Diplock's inquiry about the 2020 budget, Brent Kittmer stated that the budget is fixed, and St. Marys is responsible for 8% of the total policing costs. If the budget receives an unexpected deficit, the Town would be responsible for its portion, likewise with a surplus.

Deputy Chief Foster provided the following highlights of specific details on the budget in response to Chair Diplock:

- \$14,250 listed as contracted services if related to IT requirements
- \$960 for fuel represents a cost savings due to the number of hybrid vehicles within the Service
- Also related to fuel savings is a joint fuel tender between multiple parties that results in a decrease in fuel cost
- PRIDE is a relationship with Waterloo Regional Police, Bradford, Guelph and Simcoe Police. The budgeted fee is for the associated costs of that relationship.

- Budget for radio update to optimize the radio frequency throughout the areas served by the Service.

Moved By Paul Dunseith

Seconded By Jacqui Hibbert

THAT the information regarding the 2021 Policing budget and 5-year capital plan be received; and

THAT the Community Policing Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

THAT Council approve the 2021 Stratford Police operating budget and 5-year capital plan.

CARRIED

7. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Chair reviewed the upcoming meeting as presented on the agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chief Skinner asked Constable Mounfield to provide an update about the recent communication campaign created by the Service and shared through the local media to the public.

Constable Mounfield stated that "Ask A Cop A Question" has been created whereby the public can submit questions to the St. Marys Independent or Stratford Beacon Herald regarding policing. The questions will be printed every two weeks.

The Service has implemented the police tip of the month through the St. Marys Independent as well. The first tip was regarding fraud.

In response to Chair Diplock's inquiry that if trends of concern are noted through the questions would they be shared with CPAC, Constable Mounfield confirmed that questions of relevance would be shared.

The Committee discussed the various forms of media releases that are provided to the public through numerous sources, not just Stratford Police Service.

In response to Paul Dunseith's statement that he hopes for increased communication between the Committee and the Service as the vision zero project comes forward, Brent Kittmer confirmed that the committee will receive a report from staff after the summer break.

Moved By Paul Dunseith
Seconded By Jacqui Hibbert

THAT this Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 9:48 am.

CARRIED

Chair Diplock

Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer