



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

April 20, 2022  
9:00 am  
Video Conference

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

Stratford Police Services Present: Chief Greg Skinner  
Deputy Chief Foster

Staff Present: Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer

**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** Paul Dunseith

**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

**THAT** the April 20, 2022 Community Policing Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the March 16, 2022 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 2022 report.

In response to committee members, the Chief confirmed that some tips would be related to COVID violations in circumstances where the caller wished to remain anonymous.

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Mayor Stratthdee

**THAT** the February 2022 Crime Stoppers report be received.

**CARRIED**

### **5.2 POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS**

Deputy Chief Foster presented the March monthly statistics.

In response to committee members, the Deputy Chief confirmed that: the "Public Order Maintenance" category is a catchall for a number of calls related to disorder; that one "youth diverted" relates to a break-in at the high school, and that further review would be needed to determine if the trend of four (4) calls is concerning.

The Chief provided an update to the committee on a number of successful grants totaling over \$1M in the policing budget to: expand MCCRT service in the region; to provide a one-year pilot for a mental health coordinator position; and to support a program to hire part time casual officers to be called in a peak service times.

In response to committee members, the Chief confirmed that the candidate pool for the casual positions will likely be retired officers due to the need to have an Ontario Police College certificate.

Chair Diplock thanked the police service for issuing a press release related to the need to still renew license plates.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the March 2022 Police Monthly Statistics report be received.

**CARRIED**

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **6.1 2022 Policing Operating Budget & 5 Year Capital Plan**

Brent Kittmer presented the 2022 policing budget member.

In response to committee members, Chief Skinner and Deputy Chief Foster confirmed:

- the costs for EAP have increased due to increased usage, and an increased benefit negotiated with the SPS PSA;
- that Maintenance Contracts have increased due to cost, and due to bundling other budgeted items into this line item;
- that the SPS receives standardized pricing from dealerships for cruisers, that the St. Marys Ford dealership is eligible to provide pricing, and that St. Marys Ford has provided unmarked vehicles to the SPS; and
- that the NG911 transition is a next generation transition mandated by the CRTC to be completed by 2024.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Mayor Stratthdee

**THAT** the information regarding the 2022 Policing budget and 5-year capital plan be received; and

**THAT** the Community Policing Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

**THAT** Council approve the 2022 Stratford Police operating budget and 5-year capital plan.

**CARRIED**

### **6.2 Road Network Safety Plan Update: B. Kittmer**

Brent Kittmer presented an update on the road network safety plan.

In response to committee members, Mr. Kittmer confirmed that the Town is not aware that Vision Zero has received royal assent and that the Road Network Safety Plan will be a St. Marys specific adaptation of the principles of Vision Zero.

### **6.3 Legislative Amendment for Fees for Police Record Checks for Volunteers**

Deputy Chief Foster presented an overview of the legislative amendment for the elimination of fees for police record checks for volunteers.

Deputy Chief Foster outlined that the Province has mandated police to provide free volunteer checks, but this does not include vulnerable sector checks. Mayor Strathdee noted that provincial press releases make it appear as though all volunteer checks are now free and encouraged there to be additional press communication by the police to clarify what is and is not free.

### **6.4 Register a Bike (529 Garage)**

Chief Skinner presented and outlined that the current system of the police storing and auctioning of stolen and lost bikes is a cost to the police service. 529 Garage is an online program the police will be launching where bike owners can register their bike after purchase, and then search for reports of its description if it is lost or stolen. The police are launching this program as a strategy to reduce police involvement and will be evaluating its success. In response to committee members.

Chief Skinner confirmed that the database is privately operated and that although it is searchable, a person would not be able to seek out personal information of bike owners. 300-400 bikes are reported lost or stolen each year. The database has an international breadth and extends into the US. The SPS Communications is communicating this service to other police departments in the area.

## **7. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** this Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 9:52 am.

**CARRIED**

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Chair Diplock

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Jenna McCartney, Clerk