



Brockton Police Services Board Minutes

Thursday, May 20, 2021, 4:15 pm
Electronic Meeting

Members Present **Brian Read, Chair**
 Sarah Johnson, Jr. Deputy Clerk and Board Secretary
 Carl Kuhnke, Provincial Appointee
 Steve Adams, Councillor
 Tim Elphick, Councillor
 Krista Miller, South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment Commander
 Ryan Olmstead, South Bruce O.P.P. S/Sgt.

Members Absent **Heather Frook, Provincial Appointee**

1. Call to Order and Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Brian Read called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

Carl Kuhnke added an item under New Business regarding a stop sign request.

Resolution:

Moved By Tim Elphick

Seconded By Carl Kuhnke

That the Brockton Police Services Board hereby approve the Agenda for the May 20, 2021 meeting as amended.

Carried

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1 Brockton Police Services Board Minutes - April 15, 2021

The Board noted corrections under Item 6.6 in the minutes to reference the Ontario Court of Justice instead of the Ministry, and under Item 10 to reference the Provincial Communications Centre (London location).

The Board discussed Item 6.1 noting that Councillor Elphick will prepare a report in June for Council's information.

S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Councillor Steve Adams entered the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Sgt. Olmstead responded to questions on the ticketing process, explaining that the e-ticketing process does not have GPS capabilities to track specific locations.

The Board Secretary responded to an inquiry about the ERBP LED Sign, noting that the deer safety sign was not installed in May since the Municipality had used the LED sign to participate in the community's sign wars campaign, but would ensure the sign was displayed in June.

3.2 Brockton Police Services Board Special Meeting Minutes - April 22, 2021

Chair Brian Read informed the Board that he, Councillor Elphick, and Heather Froom met with the Mayor, Clerk, and Chief Administrative Officer on the matter, and a report was brought forward to Brockton Council, and a letter was sent to the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Detachment Commander Krista Miller noted that if the Boards combined, the South Bruce O.P.P. Board would also include the Municipalities of Arran-Elderslie and South Bruce as well as Brockton, Kincardine, and Huron-Kinloss.

Resolution:

Moved By Tim Elphick

Seconded By Carl Kuhnke

That the Brockton Police Services Board hereby approve the Minutes from April 15, 2021 and Special Meeting Minutes from April 22, 2021 as amended.

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

5. Accounts

Resolution:

Moved By Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By Steve Adams

That the Brockton Police Services Board hereby approve payment of the accounts from 04/09/2021 to 04/22/2021 in the amount of \$148,446.45, and further approves payment of the accounts from 04/23/21 to 05/05/21 in the amount of \$8,576.70.

Carried

6. Items Carried Forward

6.1 Request to Ministry of Solicitor General Under Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019

The Board Secretary informed the Board that the Municipality of Kincardine requested an extension for all South Bruce O.P.P. PSB's to have until the end of June to submit the proposal. The Municipality of Brockton has not yet received a response from the Ministry of the Solicitor General regarding the Board's original request.

6.2 Court Security

The 2021 Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Grant was received by the Municipality which was included in the May 11, 2021 Council Report.

Detachment Commander Krista Miller described the billing model for the grant, advising that court costs will be lower in 2020 since Special Constables at court were not completing as much court security due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The reconciled costs may not be what was projected. Inspector Miller noted that O.P.P. reviewed their court security hours and indicated that the expectation is that hours would be lower in 2020. Inspector Miller explained that hours are included in daily activity reports and coded specifically for court security in order to record the hours in officer's timesheets.

Inspector Miller reported that policy leaders and the Crown Attorney met to discuss fail to attend charges, noting that in 2020-2021 there is a decrease in charges since court has not been in session due to the pandemic. However, presumptive adjournments are also occurring this year to try and revive the court system which has posed some challenges, so the current anticipation is that fail to attend court charges will occur in 2021. Inspector Miller noted that the Ministry of the Attorney General would like to not lay charges at all, but the process has not been implemented yet by the Crown Attorney.

Inspector Miller responded to questions about the presumptive adjournment process explaining its assistance in scheduling court appointments.

Inspector Miller advised that the Interim Manager was present at the Court Security Committee meeting and was provided with the court security assessment tool to review. Once the Stay at Home Order is lifted, the Committee will arrange an in-person tour of the courthouse with the Interim Manager to visualize their concerns. Currently, the Committee

must wait for the Ministry of the Attorney General's opinion on the Committee's recommendations for change.

6.3 Black Cat Radar

Chair Brian Read informed the Board that he spoke with the Municipality's Director of Operations regarding the Black Cat Radar and will be having a meeting with Mr. Furtney and O.P.P. to review the policy and ensure that the Board is included in the process. The Black Cat Radar has not yet been installed due to COVID-19 restrictions on working in close proximity.

The Board discussed the draft procedure, and voiced their concerns, advocating for collaboration between the Board and O.P.P.

Chair Read provided additional explanations of the procedure, including the objective of tracking complaints and ensuring the O.P.P. Detachment are informed of complaints and can analyze the data received from the radar.

The Board discussed their concerns with the complaint form. Detachment Commander Krista Miller advocated that residents should still contact O.P.P. to report the complaint so that the O.P.P. can better understand the nature of the complaint, and be able to build rapport with the resident and explain the result after responding to the matter. Inspector Miller advocated for the administrative documentation of the complaint and request.

The Board discussed the process of communicating with the O.P.P., including the use of online reporting.

Inspector Miller noted the positive relationship with Municipal staff, and explained that the process would be created to work for all parties, advising that O.P.P. officers were involved in drafting the procedure with Municipal staff.

The Board discussed their preferences on the process, and potential changes that could be made in order to be more efficient. Inspector Miller suggested recommendations based on processes completed by other Police Services Boards.

Action: Chair Brian Read to contact the Director of Operations to organize a meeting with the O.P.P. to finalize the process and report back to the Board in June.

6.4 Traffic Calming Device

Chair Brian Read noted that the traffic calming devices have also arrived, and staff will need to determine the installation process and learn how the devices work.

The Board agreed that the devices should be installed in Chepstow, and a process can be developed to coordinate and keep all parties informed. The Board discussed the process developed in the Town of Hanover. The Board discussed some locations to install the traffic calming devices. The O.P.P. noted that the Black Cat Radar will also assist in determining locations to install signage and best allocate resources. The O.P.P. will also review any traffic complaints received to develop a list for possible installation locations. The Board noted the sensitive nature of the installation locations should be discussed in future Closed Sessions

7. Information/Correspondence

7.1 Financial Report - April 2021

The Board Secretary reported that the By-Law Enforcement Officer will resume their role end of June/early July and in the meantime, services continue to be provided by the Building Department.

8. New Business

8.1 Brockton Virtual Committee Recognition Event

8.2 Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Golf Tournament

Chair Brian Read will speak with the Chair of the Town of Hanover's PSB about attendance.

8.3 Stop Sign Request

Carl Kuhnke requested that the Black Cat Radar or 4-Way Stop Signs be installed at Second, Third and Fourth Street intersection with Warden Street in Walkerton due to the fast traffic along the roads and to maintain children's safety.

Mr. Kuhnke explained the situation to the Board, suggesting that the radar be installed first to measure the traffic concerns. Detachment Commander Miller noted that the radar will also display the class of vehicles and can assist in determining how to proceed.

Inspector Miller recommended assigning an officer to meet with Mr. Kuhnke to identify the concerns and the Officer can recommend deploying the radar.

The Board Secretary explained the Municipality's Traffic and Parking By-Law Amendment Policy if stop signs were suggested in order to obtain community feedback prior to amending the By-Law.

8.4 Construction Site Enforcement

Councillor Tim Elphick added an additional item under New Business to discuss a social media post from another Detachment regarding enforcement at a construction area.

S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead advised that the construction companies often hire paid duty police officers to assist with health and safety, and explained the process to the Board.

Councillor Elphick noted that Chepstow will be undergoing roadwork this summer, and increased police visibility may be a good reminder.

S/Sgt. Olmstead responded to questions about the responsibility of off-duty officers.

9. **O.P.P. Detachment Commander's Report - April 2021**

Detachment Commander Krista Miller thanked S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead for his research and compilation of the report.

Inspector Miller responded to questions on the format of complaints, advising that complaints can be run Year to Date. Inspector Miller further responded to questions on the R.I.D.E. Program, advising that the length of the program completed within a specific time frame depends on the traffic flow, and/or calls for service, and explained the balance of the program as being both an educational and enforcement tool.

S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead responded to an inquiry about the definition of a traffic hazard, noting the item could be debris, blockage, or animal posing a hazard.

S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead determined that the locations of Motor Vehicle Collisions occurred in Brockton, noting the assistance in identifying hot spots and determining resources.

Inspector Miller presented her report:

- Year to date Violent Crime continues to trend downward. Overall reported Violent Crime is down over 18%
- Property Crime reporting has been significantly reduced in 2021 year to date. Frontline officers continue to conduct proactive patrols in an attempt to reduce property crime offences while members of the joint Community Street Crimes Unit thoroughly investigate these types of calls for service.
- Overall clearance rates are up in 2021 compared to 2020 in regards to Violent Crime, Property Crime and Drug Crimes.
- Proactive traffic enforcement has significantly increased in April 2021 versus April 2020. The biggest factor being more knowledge, experience and PPE usage as it relates to COVID-19.
- Traffic stops increased by 257% in April 2021 vs April 2020 and officers actively engaged in the Easter Long Weekend Traffic Plan issuing 140 Provincial Offence Notices across the detachment area.
- Reported Motor Vehicle Collisions remain consistent. During April 2021 South Bruce OPP investigated one fatal collision that occurred in the Municipality of Brockton that is still under investigation.
- COVID Update – South Bruce OPP detachment has seen an increase of COVID related calls for service since the implementation of the Stay-at-Home order. Officers continue to offer advice and education in relation to the current restrictions in place and thoroughly investigate each call for service independently utilizing enforcement action if necessary.
 - Inspector Miller noted that one charge was laid recently in the Brockton area.
- E-Ticketing Program launched. South Bruce OPP officers are now trained to complete Provincial Offence Notices electronically utilizing in-car software. Driver's licences are scanned and tickets generated electronically.
- South Bruce OPP officers completed 27 proactive Property Checks within the Municipality of Brockton along with 17 proactive Traffic Enforcement occurrences in April 2021.
- During April of 2021, South Bruce OPP officers dedicated 32 hours to Foot Patrol within the Municipality of Brockton. Three occurrences were generated from these foot patrols including an officer issuing a Stunt Driving charge.

- Unfortunately South Bruce OPP Civilian Guard, Eric Parsons passed away recently. Eric had been with the South Bruce OPP in this capacity for approximately 20 years. Our thoughts to his family and friends at this difficult time.

Action: The Brockton Police Services Board to send a letter of condolence to South Bruce O.P.P. and the family of Sgt. Parsons.

Inspector Miller responded to inquiries about foot patrol, advising that officers patrol in the evenings, and many patrols occur in downtown Walkerton as well as outlying areas as well, including the trail system, and near high schools. The Board voiced their appreciation for the foot patrols.

Inspector Miller informed the Board that specific Brockton statistics for Crime Stoppers tips would have to come directly from Crime Stoppers.

Inspector Miller advised that she would report on false alarms in June.

S/Sgt. Ryan Olmstead reported that nine (9) calls were received in April 2021 for Brockton for Fail to Attend Court statistics. Inspector Miller reported that 70 Fail to Attend Court statistics occurred in 2020.

The Board discussed an incident concerning Walkerton residents that had been shared on social media. Inspector Miller noted that officers were involved in the matter and have engaged mobile mental health and addiction teams as well as the County of Bruce Social Services Department. Inspector Miller advised that individuals must also accept the resources offered, but officers continue to engage and help until it is accepted. The Board discussed the stigmatizing nature of the matter, and ways to support residents to feel safer. Inspector Miller reminded that residents should contact O.P.P. at the time of incident in order to assist with the situation and help all parties feel safe and assisted, especially in moments of crisis in order to best help everyone involved.

The Board discussed concerns with loud vehicles and the impact on residents. Inspector Miller discussed the trend with vehicle exhausts, and noted that officers are also aware of the matter and can conduct traffic stops of such vehicles.

Councillor Tim Elphick congratulated Sgt. Patrick Richardson and Sgt. Dave Matheson for participating in the 100 km Memorial Fund Walk this week.

10. Other Business

11. Next Meeting

The next Brockton Police Services Board Meeting is on June 17, 2021 at 4:15 p.m.

12. Adjournment

Resolution:

Moved By Carl Kuhnke

Seconded By Tim Elphick

That the Brockton Police Services Board hereby adjourn at 6:40 p.m. to meet again on June 17, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried