



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020 – 2:00 P.M.

**POLICE SERVICES BOARD ROOM
(Virtual Meeting)**

1. Roll Call

Members – Mayor C. Provenzano
J. Bruno
R. Webb
L. Vezeau-Allen
I. MacKenzie

Staff – Chief H. Stevenson
Deputy R. MacLachlan
S. Miles

2. Call to Order

Chair, C. Provenzano called this meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. Questions and Information Arising Out of the Minutes and Not Otherwise on the Agenda

There were no questions or information that arose.

5. Adoption of Minutes – June 25, 2020

MOVED BY: I. Mackenzie
SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the regular meeting, as presented, be hereby approved.
Carried.

6. Motion to Accept Agenda – September 24, 2020

MOVED BY: L. Vezeau-Allen
SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Agenda of the regular meeting, as presented, be hereby approved.
Carried.

7. Communications & Reports – Information Only

- a) Special Account Ledger (Auction Fund) – August 2020
- b) Monthly Total Overtime Costs (Paid and Banked) – August 2020

The Chief reviewed that the costs for overtime are down significantly from June through August. The Chief was proud of the numbers and the ability of the service to keep them at a reasonable amount and still show a decline per month.

- c) Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (3 Year Comparison) – August 2020

The Chief noted there was a significant decrease in overtime costs during what is typically the highest time period of police demand and staffing shortages due to vacation.

- d) Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (Patrol & CERB) – August 2020
- e) Budget Report

The Chief advised this amount includes \$2 million in retroactive pay that will be adjusted at the end of the year. This amount is also missing a \$500,000 revenue that was not accounted for at the time of the report being printed.

- f) Statistical Reports for May, June & July 2020

The Chief reported that the Service is up in the number of calls for service. Robberies, crimes of property and break and enter occurrences are seeing an upward trend in them being up significantly.

In the June year to date numbers we see similar in calls for service volume. Property crime show a jump again. In July they are somewhat down with regards to call for service and property crimes show a drop demonstrating that we are closing the window a little.

With regards to what is contributing to this increase over the past two years, the Chief advised that Bill C-75 is causing police to work three to four times on the same person. The current justice system is not working and our Service is not alone in this position. The Chief pointed out that even though calls for service are up, the reality is that it is not always about custody, it is about treatment. The Chief noted that the message needs to be sent to the provincial government that we need a long term care

facility for treatment; we need to come up with alternative strategies to come with a new system. This is about the protection of the public and we have noticed an increase in the tension of our community. There are reports of new victims and coming through the communications of Councilors and Politicians. The Chief advised that police will continue to do more and as much as we can but public safety is a shared responsibility.

The Chair agreed with the Chief's issues with Bill C-75 and was happy to support any efforts to have it adjusted. The Chair advised that whatever we can do as a board to support efforts to have reform is supported by the Board. The Chair thank the Chief for the efforts he has made and pointed out that Bill C-75 is federal legislation and the provision of resources for healthcare needs to come from provincial partners. Community safety is a shared responsibility. The Chair advised that he knows the Chief and Service are working hard.

The Chair pointed out that the Community has to feel safe so he asked the Chief to speak to the community about the efforts being made to do our part to help keep the community safe. The Chief reported that in the last month, due to Deputy's efforts and Organized Crime Command, the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service had the largest drug seizure in the history of the Service. The Chief advised that the reality is, this causes a loss of product in the city so the cost of product goes up, resulting in people sometimes being more aggressive in their efforts to fulfill the addiction. The Chief reiterated that this is a health issues.

The Chief also noted that the Service has been fortunate to have a relationship with the Crown and Social Services where they have been able to come up with an approach to treatment that has not been seen before. The will benefit people presented to the court with addiction issues and property offences as that is the time to get them into a treatment program. The Chief advised we are working on a protocol with these agencies to come up with an approach.

The Chief also provided that there has been an increase in patrols and visibility and he knows we are seen more across the city. He has moved specialty units back to the frontline and there are more cars, more individuals on patrol, an increase in bicycle patrols, as well as having set up the Jump Station so there are more officers in the area.

Under the Deputy's leadership, the Service has also started the IMET Enforcement Team. There has been one successful investigation so far and when that was being conducted, there were people in the area clapping. The City came together to make sure the building that attracted criminality can be dealt with by regulatory approaches. You will see more of that in the future.

The Chief also reported that he has started Community Police Officers unit, let by Sgt. Chabot and there are two officers assigned. When consistent complaints happen, these officers will be dispatched to deal with them from an investigative and preventative perspective. The Chief advised we are on top of drug distribution in this city and when you make a call and you do not see us, it does not mean we are not

there; investigations are underway.

The Chief noted there has been increased level of anxiety due to Covid-19 and the economy. We will continue to do this and more. The Police Service will never say to anyone in the community and say there is nothing we can do. That will not happen.

Lisa wanted to recognize there was a community consultation on Gore Street and wanted to thank the Chief for attending. She applauded the Chief, Deputy and SGT. Chabot for reaching out and also wanted to applaud them regarding the IMET.

John also wanted to commend the Chief and Deputy.

Provincial Offences Statistics – August 2020

g) Public Complaints Against Police – dated September 24, 2020

8. Re-appointment to Police Services Board

J. Bruno has been re-appointed to the Sault Ste. Marie Police Services Board a further period of three years, effective August 17, 2020.

9. Agreement between the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service and the Collision Reporting Centre

MOVED BY: R. Webb

SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Board agree to sign the agreement between the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service and the Collision Reporting Centre. Carried.

10. For Information: 3rd Party Parking By-Law Enforcement Pilot Extension

MOVED BY: I. MacKenzie

SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Board agree to provide their support with regards to the Third Party Parking By-Law Enforcement Pilot Extension. Carried.

11. Next Meeting Date

October 29, 2020

12. Adjournment – Time: 2:30 p.m.

MOVED BY: L. Vezeau-Allen
SECONDED BY: R. Webb

That the regular meeting is adjourned and that the Board enter into the caucus meeting.
Carried.