



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018 – 2:00 P.M.

POLICE SERVICES BOARD ROOM

1. Roll Call

Members – D. Hilsinger, Chair
J. Bruno
Councillor M. Bruni
R. Webb

Staff – Chief R. Keetch
Deputy S. Sparling
S. Miles

2. Call to Order

Chair D. Hilsinger called this meeting to order at 2:07.

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 that arose.

5. Adoption of Minutes – February 22, 2018

MOVED BY: J. Bruno
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

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

6. Motion to Accept Agenda – March 29, 2018

MOVED BY: J. Bruno
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

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

7. a) Taxi By-Law Meter Rate and Wait time Increase

The Chief explained this matter is follow-up to a previous meeting that was held with all of the taxi companies. The Chief provided for the Board that there are clear differences with how taxi drivers are employed in Sault Ste. Marie as opposed to other communities in Ontario.

Mr. Dawson spoke to the Board on how Sault Ste. Marie is the only community to pay drivers the minimum wage and has one of the lowest percentage rates for what taxi employees are being paid. Comparing rates in Sault Ste. Marie is difficult to do with other communities because of the difference in how employees are paid. Mr. Dawson could not recommend a rate increase; however, he felt that if the taxi industry needs a rate increase, they should be proving their need to the Board.

Mr. Wilson provided that there is an issue with taxi meters as well. He explained that taxi meters do not allow for the addition of HST to the fair, therefore taxi companies are losing 13% of each fair to taxes. The Chair asked the Chief to look into how the meters are structured and to bring back more information regarding this matter.

It was asked if Mr. Dawson's letter would be submitted with City Council and the Chair confirmed it would.

Councillor Bruni asked for an explanation on what "wait time" means and it was explained that when a cab stops and waits for an individual who may be running an errand, etc., the meter is left running and that is the wait time. If the tires are moving on the vehicle, the rate is determined by the kilometre but if the vehicle stops running, the rate is based on time. The company owners asked if the rate increase was to \$3.00 or \$5.00 because it was not made clear at the last meeting. The Chief explained there was a recommendation to not put an upper ceiling on the rate and let the market determine what the rate should be. Rick Webb advised that he would be in favour of the motion and would be agreeable to eliminating the ceiling. The Chief noted that in 2019 the minimum wage is expected to go up again so it is anticipated this situation could come up again. Councillor Bruni asked if all of the companies had agreed to the \$3.00 and the Chief advised the meeting did not end with any clear indication as to which amount was preferable. The Chair advised she would prefer to leave the ceiling in place until the Board has more information. Both Councillor Bruni and John Bruno agreed. The Chair advised the issue of lifting the ceiling would be settled at a future date. The Chief would also include information on this in his report on the meters.

MOVED BY: R. Webb
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

RESOLVED that the Board approve to forward this request to City Council for further consideration. Carried.

8. b) Taxi By-Law – Driver’s Licence (Addendum #1)

The Chief explained the request to amend the by-law so an individual with a dated criminal record would have the option to apply to the Chief and have a review of the application conducted. The taxi companies asked for reassurance that a license would not be granted to anyone with a significant criminal record and the Chief noted the taxi companies could also ask for a criminal record check so they could review it themselves. Mr. Wilson asked if the wording would read “may” or “shall”. The Chief explained that what we are recommending is the potential to review this and give the individual the option to apply to the Chief for further review. Mr. Dawson agreed with this and felt that it was a responsible decision on the part of the Board.

MOVED BY: M. Bruni
SECONDED BY: R. Webb

RESOLVED that the Board approve to forward this request to City Council for further consideration. Carried.

9. Communications & Reports – Information Only

- a) Special Account Ledger (Auction Fund) – February 2018
- b) 2018 Monthly Total Overtime Costs (Paid and Banked) – February 2018
- c) 2018 Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs – February 2018
- d) 2018 Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (Cash and AOT) – February 2018
- e) 2017-2018 Court Time Cost Comparison – October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018
- f) Monthly and Year to Date Statistical Reports for December 2017

The Chief noted the statistics are further illustration of what our community is going through economically. Councillor Bruni expressed concern about the theft from vehicle and assault numbers. The Chief noted that prevention of assault incidents are difficult but the theft from vehicles are up to the public. Donna pointed out that impaired incidents have come down significantly over the past five years. Councillor Bruni asked what the Service has planned for the September 1, 2018 roll out of legalization of marihuana. The Chief advised the Ontario Chief’s Association has been expressing concerns that we do not have a roadside device capable of detecting marihuana in the blood. We are sending officers for drug training but that is challenging as well. Councillor Bruni confirmed the government will be paying for the training. The Chief advised we need to advocate for the necessary tools required

for officers to do their jobs and all we can continue to do is lobby the government.

- g) YCJA Diversion Program – Statistical Report ending February 28, 2018
- h) Provincial Offences Statistics – February 2018

The Chief noted the traffic unit is impacting these numbers.

- i) Use of Force Reports – February 2018
- j) Public Complaints Against Police – February 2018
- k) Notes of Appreciation – March 2018

The Chief noted the Peer to Peer program was established for first responders in the city and the deployment of a team to the EMS was very well received.

John asked about Naloxone kits and asked if the Service has them. The Chief advised we do have them and we made a determination early that only officers we thought to have a high likely hood of being exposed would be provided the training and kits. The Chief informed that the kits are in the cell area and court house as well. They have not been deployed to all members as of this date. EMS have the kits and it is our hope they are typically the first responders in these types of calls. We wanted to ensure our members had it for their safety but it has not been rolled out to all of front line yet. The Chief noted that if any were administered, we would notify SIU and they would invoke their mandate. The Chiefs are advocating for an exemption for this. There is some discussion around a review of the new legislation and there may be no requirement to notify SIU in Naloxone incidents.

John asked if there is a cost for the kits and the Chief advised initially there was and we purchased through our budget but it is now provided through the province. There are storage requirements and a shelf life, as well. We believe that EMS is going to arrive in advance or correspond to us arriving and they are better trained and equipped to administer than we are. The Chief explained that we differ from OPP in that they have more opportunity to be first responders on an incident due to their larger and more rural areas. The Chief noted it becomes a matter of evaluating possibility versus probability.

10. Travel Log

MOVED BY: M. Bruni
SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Board approve the Travel Log report dated March 29, 2018.
Carried.

11. Financial Request Board Fund Rockin' Out for Recovery Event

MOVED BY: M. Bruni

SECONDED BY: J. Bruno

RESOLVED that the Board approve the donation of \$500.00 to the Rockin' Out for Recovery Event, hosted by the SSM & Area Drug Strategy. Carried.

12. Update on Fitness Room Upgrade

MOVED BY: J. Bruno

SECONDED BY: R. Webb

RESOLVED that the Board approve the payment of \$11,000 from the Board's Special Account, pursuant to the resolution to share the cost of the Fitness Room Upgrade on October 19, 2017. Carried.

13. For Information: Planning, Designing and Construction of Police Facilities Course

Rick asked if anyone internally would be attending and the Deputy suggested that if there is interest in this course, we should send someone. The Chief also agreed there could be value in attending. Rick thought it would be worthwhile and John was also supportive. Donna asked for the Chief and Deputy to choose someone to send and they agreed.

14. For Information: Inspection on the Investigation and Reporting of Firearms Discharges Causing Death or Injury

15. For Information: Indigenous Engagement

The Deputy reported to the Board that this has been a project he has been working on for over a year. One of the issues was finding the right partners. Algoma University is going to have the training program ready by the end of May. Frontline officers will receive an online module, followed by approximately two days of in class training. The training will end at a certificate level. There are other partners that may be joining but are not listed yet. The Deputy noted the other side of the program is the policy development that needs to take place. Mr. Sayers has previously taken part in policy development and he will assist the Service with this aspect of the project. The Deputy noted that the whole program will give the Service a focus group to use when we hit the business plan stage.

16. For Information: Review R v Timothy Mitchell

The Chief reported that we have launched an internal review. We have requested the OIPRD take carriage of the conduct investigation and they have agreed to come for that.

It will be done outside of our police service. There have also been ongoing meetings regarding the review. The Chief noted that we anticipate OPC will be coming up for the policy and use of force training to ensure we are in compliance. The internal review may be done fairly quickly, however the OIPRD may take a bit longer. The Chief spoke with the director and they are going to assign it to an investigator. The Chief advised there will be regular updates for the Board. The Deputy advised the internal should be completed for the next board meeting and we should have a report back from the OPC for the May meeting but it could be several months for the OIPRD.

17. New Hire (Addendum #2)

The Chief discussed the fluid nature of our complement. He explained how there are positions funded through the province due to various strategies. Though our authorized strength is 135, we can pay for 137 because two salaries are offset by funding. There are more that will be funded in the future as well. The Chief provided a brief biography of the new hire and noted there is space within the budget to hire this individual.

18. Next Meeting Date

April 24, 2018

19. Adjournment – Time: 2:57

MOVED BY: R. Webb
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

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