



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2021 – 1:00 P.M.

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

1. Roll Call

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

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

2. Call to Order

Chair J. Bruno called this meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

R. Webb declared a conflict of interest with regards to Sault College Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards Program.

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 – March 25, 2021

MOVED BY: L. Vezeau-Allen
SECONDED BY: I. MacKenzie

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

Carried.

6. Motion to Accept Agenda – May 27, 2021

MOVED BY: I. MacKenzie
SECONDED BY: L. Vezeau-Allen

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

7. Communications & Reports – Information Only

a) Monthly Total Overtime Costs (Paid and Banked) – April 2021

The Chief reported that April was an incredibly busy month as a number of serious occurrences took place and people were called in to backfill frontline response.

- b) Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (3 Year Comparison) – April 2021
- c) Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (Patrol & CERB) – April 2021
- d) Year End Statistical Reports for 2020

The Chief reviewed the overall increases, with a focus on robbery and weapons related calls as their increase was significant. Lisa asked if the attempt break and enter number includes businesses and the Chief advised he would follow up with clarification on this. Lisa advised this information could be used to determine if it would be helpful to provide business owners with more information to help them protect themselves.

e) Statistical Reports for February & March 2021

The Chief reviewed the statistical information provided. Mayor Provenzano noted that the statistics show that while there is no increase in calls for service, it is clear there is an increase in acute or serious crimes.

Mayor Provenzano asked for the Chief's response on what he sees in the data and what may be the driving forces behind the escalation of the serious crimes. The Chief noted that the reason and cause for the serious occurrences are purely due to the drug industry we have in this city has; each serious occurrence has had ties to the criminal subculture. The Chief advised the city needs a treatment facility and unless these people get treated and have long term care, the cycle of violence will continue exponentially. The Chief also stated the difficulty is that it is a public health issue and Bill C75 has not helped. People do not go to jail unless they are arrested for substantive occurrences. Different levels of government have to deal with this crisis. This is not just a Sault Ste. Marie issue and it has to be taken on as a collective approach to long term drug addiction.

Ian agreed that he is seeing in the news individuals committing crimes while on

probation and committing them repeatedly.

Mayor Provenzano wanted to acknowledge that he thinks it is important that the public knows police are responding, addressing the issue and dealing with it and making the arrest; this was critical to know from a community safety perspective and it is reflected in the overtime. Mayor Provenzano also acknowledged that April would have been a very stressful month and working overtime is taxing so he wanted to acknowledge the work of the police service in responding to these incidents and he knows police will continue to make the arrests. Mayor Provenzano stated that as a community we need to deal with the demand issues and decrease the demand for the system in place and the addiction challenges.

- f) Provincial Offences Statistics – April 2021
- g) Public Complaints Against Police – April & May 2021
- h) Use of Force Reports
- i) Travel Log
- j) Notes of Appreciation

8. Sault College Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards Program

MOVED BY: C. Provenzano
SECONDED BY: L. Vezeau-Allen

RESOLVED that the Board approve an annual contribution to the Scholarships, Bursaries and Award program at Sault College, in the amount of \$1500 to be funded from the Board's Auction Account. Carried.

9. Taxi By-Law: Accessible Transportation

Lisa reported that it was brought to the attention of the Accessibility Committee that some taxi services have not been easily available during the 24-hour period that is required under By-law 8.18.

The accessibility coordinator, Nancy Scott, has received reports and one company does not have availability after 4:00 p.m., and one stops after midnight.

Lisa advised the recommendation is to invite the Chief or Deputy to attend the June 9th Accessibility meeting. Nancy Scott will survey those that use the service and make a report.

10. Taxi By-Law Under the Municipality

The Chief discussed the suggestion previously made at the January meeting to move the

Taxi By-law away from policing and put it back in to the regular city enforcement of the by-laws. The Chief agreed to attend the meeting with the Accessibility Committee with the understanding that moving the Taxi By-Law under the municipality would be further discussed and looked into.

Mayor Provenzano noted the discussions are ongoing and there is a team at the city engaged in conversation with Sgt. Magnan. It was suggested to defer the move to have further discussion between the City and the police service and have finality on this matter at the next meeting.

11. Next Meeting Date

June 24, 2021

12. Adjournment – Time: 1:37 p.m.

MOVED BY: R. Webb
SECONDED BY: I. MacKenzie

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