



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 30, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.

**POLICE SERVICES BOARD ROOM
(Virtual Option Provided)**

1. Call to Order

Chair, J. Bruno called this meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Motion to Move IN-CAMERA

MOVED BY: M. Bruni
SECONDED BY: I. MacKenzie

RESOLVED that the Board agree to adjourn the public portion of its meeting and in-camera to discuss confidential items pursuant to Section 44 (2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act*.

CARRIED

3. Territorial Acknowledgement

We would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory and that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, specifically the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations, as well as Métis People.

4. Roll Call

Members: J. Bruno
I. MacKenzie
M. Bruni
S. Spina

Staff: Chief H. Stevenson
Deputy B. Duguay
Insp. W. Freeman
S. Miles
L. Hodgson
L. Louttit

Media: J. Hopkins (SooToday)
B. Kelly (Sault Star)
Others: T. Gervais (SOLGEN)

5. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

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

There were not questions or information that arose.

7. Adoption of Minutes – October 3, 2024

MOVED BY: I. MacKenzie
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

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

CARRIED

8. Motion to Accept Agenda – October 30, 2024

MOVED BY: S. Spina
SECONDED BY: M. Bruni

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

CARRIED

9. Communications & Reports – Information Only

a) Special Account Ledger (Auction Fund) – September 2024

The Chief reviewed the report.

b) Monthly Overtime (Paid and Banked) – September 2024

The Chief reported that the overtime is better than last year and there is a relatively consistent running total when compared to last year.

c) Monthly Staff Shortage Overtime Costs (5 Year Comparison) – September 2024

The Chief noted a significant decrease.

d) Monthly Staff Shortage Costs – September 2024

The Chief reviewed the report.

e) Court Time Costing – October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024

The Chief reported there has been a full year of court time accounted for in this report. The service spent \$33,000 over budget in court time. The Deputy noted these are a result of trials involving primarily weapon and drug charges and the majority of these cases did not happen this year. They were all large-scale investigations.

f) Budget Report – report ending September 30, 2024

The Chief reported there is 27% left in the budget and we are on track with spending our money appropriately.

g) Statistical Reports – September 2024

Chief reported we are down in all categories for crimes of violence. In crimes of property, break and enters are down overall, our only increase is with shoplifting.

Ian noted it was nice to see the areas we have been working on are experiencing a reduction. Ian also noted it was nice to see the drop in thefts, specifically. Ian asked if there was anything specific we are doing that is causing the dramatic drop in thefts. The Chief advised the increase in shoplifting is displaying the decrease in thefts from vehicles as it takes a lot less effort. Sgt. Stevenson has been in touch with businesses to target harden their space. These are people that our bail system and justice system have to increase the deterrent value. There is nothing to stop these people from getting in. Something has to be done to stop this cycle.

Sonny noted that we have talked about this issue but asked what we are doing at our municipal level to fight this. The Chief advised our specialty unit, run by Sgt. Stevenson, has been proactively dealing with our community members and business members. We have individuals who are trained to help them assess their business to reduce the risk of theft. At the end of the day, we've done our best to try and lobby for changes.

Sonny advised those numbers have increased and he would like to see the numbers come down. He would like to put a book end on these and say that by a certain date we would like to see these numbers come down. Locally, he would like to see us adapt and change our response to bring those numbers down. He would like to see a plan to have those numbers come down by a certain date.

Marchy echoed the Chief's comments on the numbers increasing. He feels we need to push it to a higher level, the provincial/federal level. Marchy recited an incident that had been reported in the media of multiple thefts from a business by one person, occurring in the same day.

The Chief advised we will take a closer look. We can always do more and come back with more strategies we can put into the community at a municipal level.

Ian advised he has noticed more uniformed security personnel at businesses.

h) Intimate Partner Violence Project Statistics

The Chief reviewed the statistics and noted they demonstrate a huge success.

i) Use of Force Report

The Chief reviewed the report.

j) Public Complaints Against Police

The Chief reviewed the report.

10. Service Fees

Presented by: Insp. Freeman

Insp. Freeman advised that some of the current fees that include third party video, phone calls, requests through FOI, the service is looking at keeping this fee the same but would add on a redaction fee. With body worn cameras, the redaction has increased significantly. The amount requested is on par with other services. The service wants to increase from \$28 to \$50 to keep it consistent across the board. Vulnerable Sector Record checks would be increased to \$30. Insp. Freeman advised they would like to encourage people to use the online option for record checks. Our record checks have a fee built-in and he would like to cover the Forest Green fee. With regard to the use of police vehicles, we were charging \$30/hr. and need to upgrade it to \$50/hr. We will be receiving a lot of requests for body camera footage and we have a DEMS Unit that will be responsible for this. Services across the province are adjusting their service fee schedules to accommodate for these requests and we are trying to keep a consistent and easy fee. There will also be a new record check being implement in January and it will be a lot more work. Currently, we are looking at charging \$100 for this type of record check. Insp Freeman reviewed the process.

Marchy asked how we are comparable to other northern services. Insp. Freeman advised that a lot of other services have not incorporated body worn camera fees yet as they're not up and running. Timmins is a \$100/hr. flat rate and Thunder Bay is \$250 per video, plus redaction. Marchy felt it would be important for the fees to come back to the board once a year for review and agreed we should be recouping some of the costs.

Ian advised we should have a break down so there is something to review for the next meeting.

Sonny advised he supports the increases and was not worried about our comparators as our people know what the internal costs are for us and creating a fee schedule consistent with our internal costs. Sonny suggested having a policy that will say the costs will rise every year, consistent with the CPI or technology advancement. This way we could allow the service to manage those fees.

Ian advised that for the initial year or two, we have to look at if this will cover the cost of expenses so it could be good to review until we know those fees.

The Chief would ensure the board was provided the spreadsheet.

This item will be deferred until the board has had the opportunity to review the document.

11. Next Meeting Date

November 20, 2024

12. Adjournment – Time: 11:08 a.m.

MOVED BY: M. Bruni
SECONDED BY: I. MacKenzie

RESOLVED that the meeting is now adjourned.

CARRIED