



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**December 2, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.**

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

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### **1. Call to Order**

Chair, J. Bruno called this meeting to order at \_\_\_\_\_ 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)

Maggie Kirk (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 no questions or information that arose.

**7. Adoption of Minutes – October 30, 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 – December 2, 2024**

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

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

**CARRIED**

**9. Matters Arising from In Camera**

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

RESOLVED that the Board approve the 2025 budget updated for revenues confirmed subsequent to the approval on October 3, 2024, meeting, resulting in a change from a \$40,170,897 increase to a \$39,650,897 increase. This reflects a 6.79% increase over 2024.

**CARRIED**

## 10. Communications & Reports – Information Only

- a) Special Account Ledger (Auction Fund) – October 2024

The Chief reported there was no significant change to the account.

- b) Monthly Overtime (Paid and Banked) – October 2024

The Chief noted a significant decrease in overtime.

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

The Chief reviewed the report.

- d) Monthly Staff Shortage Costs – October 2024

The Chief noted the cost has been cut in half.

- e) Budget Report – report ending September 30, 2024

The Chief reported there is 20% left in our budget and we are on track.

- f) Court Time Costing – ending September 30, 2024

The Chief reviewed the report and noted the overtime for courts is over budget. The Chief reviewed the exceptional cases that resulted in the increase.

- g) Statistical Reports – September 2024

The Chief reported there has been a 10% increase in reportable calls for service, which is relatively significant. The Chief noted that crimes of violence are down, assaults are down, sex assaults are down but IPV is up. Property crimes are another good story except for shoplifting. Shoplifting is still a concern and showing an increase. The Chief advised that part of this could be explained by an increase in online reporting. Outside of shoplifting, crimes of property have significantly declined.

- h) Intimate Partner Violence Project Statistics

The Chief reviewed the report.

- i) Use of Force Report

The Chief reviewed the report.

- j) Public Complaints Against Police

The Chief reviewed the report.

## 11. Shoplift Initiative

Presented by: Insp. Dewar

The Chief noted this initiative is a result of concern regarding the increase to shoplifting offences, as reported in the statistics. We have to take a holistic look at shoplifting in our community. The Deputy and Insp. Dewar have reached out to other services and associations to help with this issue.

Marchy asked about the smaller businesses and if we are going into those businesses and talking to the owners. Insp. Dewar advised that if they ask, we absolutely will. We started with the larger businesses because they are the ones putting in the report but we are happy to reach out to anyone who requires it.

Sonny asked if we think the majority of the thefts are being consumed by the thief or if they are selling the items to a third party. Insp. Dewar advised that items from a hardware store are usually traded while other items being stolen from a convenience store are most likely being consumed. The Chief advised the need is based on a commodity for drugs.

Sonny would like us to see us go after the people who are buying the products and dry up the market so they have no one to sell to and help to stop the thefts. Insp. Dewar advised that 16.7% of thefts were alcohol and drug related.

The Chief noted that Sonny's approach is more of an organized crime aspect. The numbers show most products being stolen are consumable products and are sustenance for drug use and eating. Those charges would be warranted for those in possession of stolen property, but we are talking about low end items that are not readily identifiable with a serial number or trackable information. The Chief advised we have a good relationship with our Crown and hopefully these individuals would be identified and held for bail. The Chief advised that it is difficult to get into the subtrade industry but we will do our best. The Chief also noted that it speaks to the crisis our community is in when these individuals are allowed to be on the street and not held for bail or get help and treatment. This is something that we as a community need to get our head around.

Sonny clarified that his comments were more towards the hardware stores and larger items like bicycles. Sonny noted there were arrest this year where people were found in possession of a large number of items and he applauded this.

## 12. Service Fees

Insp. Freeman reviewed the increases. The Board advised they would like to review the service fees on an annual basis.

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

RESOLVED that the Board approved the changes to the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service

fees, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**13. Next Meeting Date**

January 29, 2025

**14. Adjournment – Time: 10:52 a.m.**

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

RESOLVED that the meeting is now adjourned.

**CARRIED**