

MEETING: THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH THUNDER BAY POLICE SERVICES BOARD

DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2024

TIME: 10:31 A.M.

PLACE: VALHALLA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE
1 VALHALLA INN ROAD, THUNDER BAY

CHAIR: MS. K. MACHADO

PRESENT:

Mr. W. Bahlleda
Mayor K. Boshcoff
Councillor K. Etrene
Ms. K. Machado
Mr. M. Mercer

OFFICIALS:

Mr. R. Hughes, Deputy Chief of Police
Inspector G. Snyder, Thunder Bay Police Service
Staff Sergeant J. Rybak, Thunder Bay Police Service
Sergeant R. Belcamino, Thunder Bay Police Service
Mr. T. Gervais, Ministry of the Solicitor General
Mr. J. Hannam, Secretary – Thunder Bay Police Services Board
Ms. L. Douglas, Assistant to the Secretary - Thunder Bay Police Services Board

ATTENDING BY ZOOM:

Ms. D. Baxter

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest declared at this time.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

MOVED BY: Councillor K. Etrene

SECONDED BY: Mr. W. Bahlleda

With respect to the Fifth Session (Regular) of the Fifty-Fifth Thunder Bay Police Services Board held on February 20, 2024, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Third Session (Regular) of the Fifty-Fifth Thunder Bay Police Services Board held on January 16, 2024, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Councillor K. Etrene

SECONDED BY: Mayor K. Boshcoff

THAT the Minutes of the Third Session (Regular) of the Fifty-Fifth Thunder Bay Police

Services Board held on January 16, 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED

4. DEPUTATION

Correspondence from Bill Woods to John Hannam, Board Secretary, dated January 15, 2024, relative to a request to appear before the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, was provided for the Board's information.

Mr. Woods attended by Zoom; the Chair advised deputation protocols.

Mr. Woods provided an overview of his correspondence to the Board, as well as his opinion on the current state of affairs of emergency services in Thunder Bay. Mayor Boshcoff was concerned about Mr. Woods' sources of data, as the service area for the City of Thunder Bay emergency services is much larger than many countries in the world, and asked Mr. Woods to consider how large the service area is.

A brief discussion was held on 911 calls relative to the lack of response or the response time.

At 10:45 a.m., Mr. Woods was thanked for his deputation, and his Zoom call was ended.

A discussion followed on response calls and how they are triaged by the Police Service. Deputy Chief of Police R. Hughes responded to questions. It was noted that a large number of calls are not necessarily emergency calls, and that is why they're triaged for severity.

In response to a question about communication with the public, Deputy Chief Hughes noted that Chief Fleury actively participates in town hall meetings and ward meetings in order to get the message out to the public.

5. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Governance Committee

Committee Chair, Ms. Denise Baxter, provided a brief overview and noted that the next meeting of the Governance Committee is scheduled for March 1, 2024.

b) Labour Relations Committee

Committee Chair, Mr. W. Bahlieda, provided a brief overview and noted that the Labour Relations Committee is preparing for bargaining discussions with representatives for the Uniform, Civilian and Senior Officers' collective agreements. The Committee is in the process of reviewing proposed changes and will be meeting with the Police Association in late March, early April 2024.

6. REPORTS OF THE THUNDER BAY POLICE SERVICE

a) Annual Review of Public Complaints

Report No. 05/24 (Police) relative to the 2023 Annual Review of Public Complaints, was provided for the Board's information.

Staff Sergeant J. Rybak, Thunder Bay Police Service, provided an overview relative to the above noted report. He noted that less than 1% of interactions with the Service result in complaints.

b) OIPRD Systemic Review Recommendations - Update

Deputy Chief of Police R. Hughes provided a verbal update relative to the above noted report. He noted that, as of January 26, 2024, several recommendations have been fully implemented on the website. He also noted that, although they have been recorded as fully implemented, the Police Service continues to monitor them and adjust as needed.

The Chair and Administrator both noted that the OIPRD have recognized the good work and results of the Service.

c) Annual Use of Force Report

Report No. 06/24 (Police) relative to the 2023 Annual Use of Force Report, was provided for the Board's information.

Sergeant R. Belcamino, Instructor – Use of Force/Firearms/Officer Safety/Defensive Tactics for the Thunder Bay Police Service, provided an overview relative to the above noted report and responded to questions.

It was important for the Board to understand that use of force prioritizes life and safety, and is subject to behaviour and risk. An overview of training was provided, particularly when a person is resisting arrest. De-escalation training is built into all use of force training. An overview of use of force training that is required annually was also provided.

Sergeant Belcamino confirmed that all firearm discharges in the report were related to animals. He also confirmed that the subject Use of Force Report will be submitted to the Ministry of the Solicitor General by the submission deadline of February 29, 2024.

d) Annual Street Check Report

Report No. 07/24 (Police) relative to the Annual Report on the Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances – Prohibitions and Duties – also known as “Street Check”, was provided for the Board's information.

Inspector G. Snyder – Corporate Services, Thunder Bay Police Service, provided an overview and noted that there was no collection of information in 2023 that falls under this legislation.

7. GENERAL MATTERS

a) Big Trout Lake – Deployment Opportunity

Deputy Chief of Police R. Hughes provided a verbal update with respect to a partnership developed that will allow the Service's officers to police alongside OPP in the community of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI or Big Trout Lake). Their officers will also be doing a tour with our Police Service in an exchange.

It is an opportunity for officers to work in a First Nations community with an OPP officer, thereby furthering reconciliation in these Indigenous communities. During off duty hours, the officers will be participating in community events. It was confirmed that this will not affect the Service's staffing levels when there are staffing shortages.

b) Website Update

Mr. J. Hannam, Secretary, provided an update relative to the internal dashboard for Board members. The development of a private members' side of the website was recently completed and instructions on how to access it sent to Board and Committee members. In addition to that work, there is now a live link for the public to view meetings on the website, rather than one that takes viewers to an external site.

c) Budget Report

Mr. J. Hannam noted that he is waiting for information from the Finance Division, and will provide an update at the next Board meeting. He also noted that the 2024 budgets for the Service and the Board have been approved by City Council.

d) Board Member Orientation

At the January 16, 2024 Regular Session of the Board, Councillor K. Etreni presented a draft Policy on Board and Committee – Orientation and Training. At the meeting, suggestions were made for further amendments to the policy, adoption of the policy was deferred, and the draft policy was referred back to Councillor K. Etreni for further revisions.

All Chiefs Memo Index 24-005, dated January 26, 2024, relative to New Mandatory Online Learning for the Public Safety Sector, was provided for the Board's information, as well as the Draft Board and Committee Policy – Orientation and Training, and the proposed Confidentiality Statement.

Councillor K. Etreni provided an overview relative to the above documents and noted that this

policy complies with the new Act and recommendations in the Senator Sinclair Report.

Chair K. Machado and Ms. D. Baxter, Chair of the Governance Committee, thanked Councillor Etreni for her work on this policy.

MOVED BY: Councillor K. Etreni
SECONDED BY: Mayor K. Boshcoff

With respect to the Policy on Board and Committee – Orientation and Training, as presented at the February 20, 2024 Regular Session of the Board;

THAT the Thunder Bay Police Services Board approves adoption of the subject policy, as presented.

CARRIED

e) CSPA Transition

Mr. J. Hannam, Secretary, provided an update relative to the transition to the *Community Safety and Policing Act* (coming into force April 1, 2024). Members of the Board subcommittee have met with Mr. T. Gervais, Police Services Advisor – Ministry of the Solicitor General, too discuss the key changes in the new Act and are in the process of developing a work plan. The work plan will focus on two (2) areas: new policy development requirements and changes to meeting processes.

It is anticipated that the plan will be ready for presentation at the March, 2024 Board meeting. Administration is in the process of arranging access to training for all Board members to become familiar with the impacts of the new Act.

f) Strategic Planning Update

Memorandum to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board from Denise Baxter, Board Vice Chair, dated February 12, 2024, relative to Strategic Planning: First Steps, was provided for the Board's information.

Ms. D. Baxter provided a brief overview of her memorandum.

MOVED BY: Ms. D. Baxter
SECONDED BY: Councillor K. Etreni

With respect to developing a new strategic plan for the provisions of policing in the community, we recommend that the Thunder Bay Police Services Board approve a call for proposals for professional services in accordance with Article 4.06 of the Board's Supply Management By-law PC25-2020;

AND THAT member D. Baxter, with the support of the Board Secretary, proceed to develop and issue the call for proposals.

CARRIED

8. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

a) Request to Reinstate Foot Patrols

Email correspondence to Mayor Ken Boshcoff from Lori Paras, dated November 29, 2023, relative to a request to reinstate foot patrols in the north and south core business districts of Thunder Bay, was provided for the Board's information.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff provided an overview of Ms. Paras' email, and noted that the severity of this problem cannot be underestimated. The City must increase its efforts to deal with issues affecting the business community and the citizens in general.

Discussion followed on dealing with mental health issues and on community policing. Deputy Chief Hughes responded to questions from Board members.

Chair K. Machado noted that the Board is hoping to table this issue with the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee, and, accordingly, will be in contact with the Board's representative on this committee, Mr. J. Veltri.

b) Safer and Vital Communities Grant – Call for Applications

All Chiefs Memo from Ken Weatherill – Assistant Deputy Minister of the Public Safety Division of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, dated January 26, 2024, relative to a Call for Applications for the 2024-25 to 2025-26 Safer and Vital Communities Grant. This memorandum was for information purposes only.

Police services are encouraged to distribute the application package to local community organizations.

c) Tracking Board Reports

There are *no updates* for the following outstanding Board reports/standing agenda items.

i. Governance Committee – Policy Development

At the May 24, 2022 Regular Session of the Board, the use of Artificial Intelligence by the Thunder Bay Police Service was presented to the Board. At the February 21, 2023 Regular Session of the Board, the BriefCam Project Report was presented.

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The Police Services Board was asked to develop a policy to ensure proper oversight regarding artificial intelligence and the use of video analytics.

ii. OCPC Chart – Summary of Recommendations

Summary of status/progress of OCPC Recommendations was last presented for the Board's information on June 28, 2022.

9. NEW BUSINESS - None

10. CONFIRMING BY-LAW

MOVED BY: Councillor K. Etrene

SECONDED BY: Mayor K. Boshcoff

THAT the following By-law be introduced, read, dealt with individually, engrossed, signed by the Chair and Secretary to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board, sealed and numbered:

1. A By-law to confirm the proceedings of a Regular Session of The Thunder Bay Police Services Board, this 20th day of February, 2024.

Explanation: Confirmation of the proceedings and each motion, resolution and other action passed or taken by the Thunder Bay Police Services Board at this meeting is required, adopted, ratified and confirmed as if all such proceedings had been expressly embodied in this By-law.

BY-LAW NUMBER: PC3-2024

CARRIED

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.