



Ottawa Police Service Board

Minutes

Meeting #: 105
Date: July 22, 2024
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Electronic Participation

Present: Chair: Salim Fakirani, Councillor Cathy Curry, Vice Chair: Marty Carr, Michael Doucet, Peter Henschel, Dave Donaldson

Absent: Mayor Mark Sutcliffe

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1. Notices and meeting information for participants and members of the public
 2. Confirmation of Agenda

That the Ottawa Police Service Board confirm the agenda of the 22 July 2024 meeting.

Carried

3. Confirmation of Minutes
 - 3.1 Minutes #103 of 24 June 2024

That the Ottawa Police Service Board confirm Minutes #103 of the 24 June 2024 meeting.

Carried

4. Committee Meetings: Reports from Committee Chairs & Minutes

4.1 Finance and Audit Committee- Draft Minutes #26 of 27 June, 2024

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this item for information.

Received

5. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

6. Public Delegations

1. Robin Browne, 613-819 Black Hub (he/him)
2. Edward Adam
3. Brad Cline
4. Keith Nuthall
5. Calla Barnett
6. Councillor David Hill
7. Jamie Sweigman and Orin Baray

Public delegations spoke to the use of force on the Black community, bicycle thefts and crime in Lees Ave and in hot spots in the downtown core, the quality of information received from 911 dispatchers, OPS' management of issues in North Sandy Hill, stunt driving in Barrhaven, the overconcentration of social services and drug dealers in Sandy Hill, hate crime against the Jewish community and the policing of protests.

When asked on about the location of hot spots, the Service noted that there is no comprehensive list of areas that have problems in Ottawa and the choice is related to data as well as qualitative considerations based on input from residents. It was further noted that the CORE strategy will help fix some of the issues, the effects are not expected to be instantaneous and will take some time to develop.

With regard to the need to decentralize social services, it was clarified that the discussion on decentralizing OPS is outside the Board's jurisdiction. However the Board acknowledge that there could be safety benefits from decentralizing and spreading out social services progressively.

With respect to the new district policing model beginning in May, the Service clarified that this was still a pilot, and that it will not be fully deployed before 2026. However, there will be 4 districts, and each has an inspector attached to it, who will communicate with many stakeholders including councillors to address local issues.

7. Inquiries

There were no Inquiries.

8. Items of Business

8.1 Chair's verbal report

Chair's report

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Carried

8.2 Chief's verbal report

Chief's report

The Service acknowledged that displacement of criminal activity has been observed, from the area within the scope of the CORE strategy to North Sandy Hill. The Service clarified that a key component of the CORE strategy involves monitoring the displacement effects that occur when enforcement is intensified in a specific area. While displacement can indicate that individuals are accessing social services, it is an important aspect of the overall strategy.

In response to a question regarding youth involvement in shootings and the corresponding police actions, the OPS noted that the year-to-date shooting incidents have decreased compared to the previous year. However, it is deeply concerning and alarming to see individuals as young as 13 becoming involved in shootings and other criminal activities. The

Service supports the presence of police in schools and is actively working to establish a robust framework for this initiative.

Regarding stunt driving, the Service indicated that those typically involved are young males between 18 and 20 years old. Although they currently lack precise data on this issue, the Service expressed willingness to collect the necessary information if required.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.3 Temporary Assistance in Policing Canada Day: Requests for Temporary Assistance, Memoranda Of Understanding, and Special Constables Appointments

This item is before the Board for ratification following pre-approval of the agreements in June 2024, under delegated authority by the Chair and Vice Chair.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board approve:

1. **Appointments of 44 RCMP officers as Special Constables for the purposes of assisting OPS in the policing of Canada Day 2024 (*on file with the Acting Executive Director*).**
2. **One request for temporary assistance from the South Simcoe Police Service for Canada Day (*on file with the Acting Executive Director*).**
3. **Six Memoranda of Understanding with the RCMP, Belleville, Kingston, London, Waterloo, and South Simcoe Police Services (*on file with the Acting Executive Director*) regarding assistance in policing Canada Day.**

Carried

8.4 Agreement Renewal Between the Ottawa Police Service Board and Carleton University, Special Constable Program

Chief's report

With the Board's consent an amended version of the draft MoU and updated Chief's report were considered. Changes were made to ensure compliance with the Community Safety and Policing Act in relation to the use of pepper gel and unmarked vehicles.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board:

- 1. Approve the revised agreement for continuation of the Carleton University, Special Constable Program under the terms pursuant to the Community Safety and Policing Act for a 5-year term ending June 30, 2029.**
- 2. Delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to:**
 - a. Approve appointments of special constables under this agreement.**
 - b. Approve amendments to the Special Constables Program Agreements with the Carleton University and the City of Ottawa, Transit Services with the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Community Safety and Policing Act and its regulations.**

Any exercise of this delegated authority will be reported out at the next regular meeting of the Board, to be ratified as part of the minutes.

Carried as amended

8.5 Ottawa Police Service 2023-2025 Drive2 Strategy Update Report

Chief's report & Presentation

The Service provided a presentation on this item.

A concern was raised regarding the measurement framework, which is challenging to understand due to its focus on numerous actions without clearly demonstrating their impact. Emphasis should be placed on metrics and progress, showcasing activities that are driving meaningful change.

The OPS emphasized that the primary goal of this initiative is to establish solid foundations. While they believe they are on firm ground, they acknowledged that achieving visible changes and tangible results will take time. As part of the DRIVE 2 strategy, the Service is addressing gaps in

policy and practice, focusing on systemic issues. They are committed to reviewing and improving these areas as necessary to address any concerns effectively.

A question was raised about how the OPS ensures employee satisfaction and maintains their belief in making a difference, as well as whether there is a process in place to ensure ongoing engagement. The Service responded that, although a recent survey has not been conducted due to COVID-19, they plan to gather feedback from OPS members moving forward. Anecdotal feedback has already indicated strong organizational commitment.

The Service also noted that they are drawing on lessons learned from other police services, such as the Peel Regional Police, to evaluate their approaches to interactions with minority groups and other key issues.

In response to a question about the possibility of having a bilingual uniform, the Service stated that they would take the suggestion into consideration.

It was noted the EDI initiatives are highly beneficial to the OPS, particularly from a CSPA perspective and the importance of the leadership team's commitment was emphasized, as these efforts are expected to lead to further progress.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.6 Annual Use of Force Report - 2023

Chief's report

It was noted that despite a decrease in the use of force, overrepresentation remains unchanged, raising questions about the effectiveness of current training. While some of the training focuses on the use of force, it was clarified that cultural awareness training also addresses issues like anti-Black racism and ableism.

Regarding the use of force, it was pointed out that the increase in aerosol weapon usage from 3 to 10 instances is not statistically significant, and

year-to-year comparisons can be difficult due to the unique nature of each situation. The revised use of force forms now allow for more detailed reporting, which will aid future comparisons.

Attention was drawn to the top three reasons for the use of force: self-protection, protecting fellow officers, and making arrests. It was noted that 69 subjects involved in these incidents had weapons, and questions were raised as to whether these individuals lived in areas where weapons were more accessible. It was suggested that this information should inform not only the use of force report but also the work of the gang and guns unit.

It was emphasized that in 99.9% of situations, force was not required, a statistic that should be highlighted. It was mentioned that officers respond to 600 calls daily, with only a small fraction resulting in enforcement actions. De-escalation and communication remain their most effective tools, though 18 civilians and 15 officers were injured in these interactions.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.7 Complaints Report – Police Services Act, Community Safety and Policing Act and Special Investigations Unit Act: Second Quarter 2024

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.8 Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Operations Centre Implementation Plan

Chief's report

A Member noted a press article regarding the Peel Regional Police's recent initiatives, urging OPS to learn from their experience and best practices.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.9 Legal Services Status Report – 2024 Second Quarter

Board Solicitor's report

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.10 Outstanding Board Inquiries, Motions & Directions: July 2024 Report

Acting Executive Director 's report

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

8.11 Letters of Commendation: July 2024

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

Received

9. Other Business

10. In Camera Items

In accordance with Section 44 of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*, the Ottawa Police Service Board will be meeting in a closed session prior to the public meeting to discuss items pertaining to the following subject matter:

1. Operational Update re: Major Events and Demonstrations
2. Confidential Lease Renewal

3. Complaints Committee Report
4. Labour Relations Matter
5. Labour Relations Unit Report - Second Quarter 2024
6. Legal Services Status Report – 2024 Second Quarter
7. Labour Relations Matter
8. Labour Relations Matter
11. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.
12. Next Meeting
Regular Meeting – Monday, September 23, 2024 - 4:00 PM

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