



Ottawa Police Services Board

Minutes 61

Meeting #: 61
Date: June 27, 2022
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Andrew S. Haydon Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West

Present: Chair: Councillor Eli El-Chantiry, Vice-Chair: Suzanne Valiquet, Councillor Cathy Curry, Councillor Jeff Leiper, Michael Doucet, Salim Fakirani

Absent: Peter Henschel

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

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm the agenda of the 27 June 2022 meeting.

Carried

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Minutes #60 of 30 May 2022

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm Minutes #60 of the 30 May 2022 meeting.

Carried

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were filed.

5. Public Delegations

1. *Robin Browne (613-819 Black Hub), he/him*
2. *Will Cooper (Rideau Students' Union), he/him*
3. *Bailey Gauthier, they/them*
4. *Sarp Kizir*

Written submissions:

1. *Tim Ruggles (Ottawa Loss Prevention Officers Association)*
2. *Meghan Potasse*

The following topics were raised by the delegations at the meeting:

- concerns with the police service's participation on the Mental Health Guiding Council and how this may impact how the Council distributes funding.
- the use of SROs and recent incidents involving police enforcement at high schools involving youth.
- use of force and concerns specifically around the use of ARWEN weapons, especially on calls for service involving mental health.
- requests for a return to virtual meetings, or for hybrid meetings.
- comments on the crime stats included in the annual report.
- media coverage on the use of force report and disproportionate use of force on Black, Middle Eastern and Indigenous people.

6. Inquiries

There were no inquiries.

7. Items of Business

7.1 Chair's verbal report

Chair's report

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

Received

7.2 Chief's verbal report

Chief's report

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

Received

7.3 Canada Day Briefing

Chief's report

Superintendent Rob Bernier provided an update on the OPS's planning for Canada Day, which will be an unprecedented event for a number of reasons. Firstly, the main celebration hosted by Heritage Canada will be held on LeBreton Flats. In previous years, it was held on Parliament Hill where Parliamentary Protective Services were the police of jurisdiction. Also, there will be around 15 different events held across the city, five of which are significant in terms of size.

Police are expecting more people to be celebrating this year following the pandemic. Police are also anticipating more demonstrations from the 'Freedom Convoy'.

Planning has been driven by a joint planning group and police continue to gather as much intelligence information as possible. Canada Day celebrations will be a strain on OPS resources and the Service has reached out to a number of police services across the country for support. One of the challenges is other police services have similar staffing needs

to tend to in their own communities. The operational plan being used is similar to what was used for Rolling Thunder.

A question was raised about what the public should do if they view potential protestors. It was clarified that if anyone is on private property or acting unlawfully in a public space, they can reach out on the non-emergency police line.

It was noted that no occupations will be allowed to occur and any hate-based or intimidating behaviours will be acted upon by police. Members of the public should contact the police if they encounter unlawful behaviours. A City Council Liaison will also be created for Councillors to leverage.

A question was raised around expanding the vehicle control zone. I/Chief Bell noted the police have the ability to be flexible and mobile and address issues both within and outside the zone. The police will have the resources to respond to issues as needed.

Members of the public can access info about Canada Day and security impacts through: OPS communications such as media releases and social media channels, Heritage Canada communications, and City of Ottawa communications.

I/Chief noted that mobility is a key component of the operational plan for Canada Day, including events held outside of the downtown core.

Police indicate possible numbers of attendees this Canada Day are in the 100,000's.

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

Received

7.4 Advancing Culture—Safer Workplace Program Update

Chief's report

CAO Blair Dunker introduced Michelle Gauthier, the OPS Director leading this initiative. Director Gauthier provided the Board with a presentation.

A question was raised about the fact that an expert on one of the subcommittees commented that once the Independent Office is stood up,

more reports are likely to come forward. It was clarified that the OPS will be taking every measure possible to make this office as independent as possible, with as much confidentiality afforded to those coming forward. This includes having the office at a location outside of OPS facilities, confidential reporting, etc.

It was clarified that there will also be a triage component to the complaints that come in and each complaint will be assessed individually.

It was noted there is no investigative process that will solve the issues around sexual violence and harassment in the workplace. The OPS needs to address all of the identified pillars for the program to succeed.

In terms of ensuring the Board is kept up to date and involved in this joint strategy with the Service, it was noted that both the Board Chair and Chief sit on the External Advisory Committee. The OPS also advised they would be happy to bring forward updates to the Board's Human Resources Committee. The Service will work with the Executive Director and the Human Resources Committee on a reporting cycle.

In terms of the case management system for the Independent Office, it was clarified the OPS is currently working on building this. It may be within the OPS network however sectioned off.

There was a discussion around the staffing of the Independent Office and the criteria they are using, such as lawyers with human rights or employment experience, or experience adjudicating.

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

Received

7.5 Canadian Association of Police Governance: Virtual Conference Attendance and Sponsorship

Executive Director's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve:

- 1. The purchase of one registration for the Canada Association of Police Governance Annual Conference taking place virtually**

September 9 – 11, 2022, at a cost of \$500 before taxes, which is good for up to five attendees.

- 2. A \$1,000 Friend sponsorship for the Canadian Association of Police Governance's 2022 Annual Conference.**

Carried

7.6 Re-Appointment of Special Constables: Ottawa Police Service

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the re-appointment of Ottawa Police Service employees listed in Document 1, as Special Constables pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Forms.

Carried

7.7 Appointment of Special Constables: Carleton University

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the appointments of Carleton University employees listed in Document 1 as Special Constables pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Forms.

Carried

7.8 Appointment of Special Constables: RCMP

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board:

- 1. Approve the existing re-appointments of up to 291 RCMP employees, as the need arises through this event, pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the**

terms and conditions set forth in the Approval of Appointment Letter(s).

- 2. Approve the appointment of up to 200 RCMP employees over and above the 291 from item 1 as the need arises through this event, pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Approval of Appointment Letter(s).**
- 3. Delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to approve the appointment of special constable status in relation to the Canada Day events occurring between June 27 - July 4, 2022, as well as any agreements between the Board and other supporting police agencies.**

These appointments and re-appointments will be valid until November 30, 2022.

Carried

7.9 Appointment of Special Constables: RCMP

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the appointments of RCMP employees listed in Document 1 as Special Constables pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Forms.

Carried

7.10 Re-appointment of Special Constables: RCMP

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the re-appointments of RCMP employees listed in Document 1 as Special Constables pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Forms.

7.11 South Campus Project Update

Chief's report

The Chair made a note that this project has been underway since 2011/2012. The OPS has been collecting the development charges from the City to help fund this facility. The Chair noted there is a need to refresh the report and the facilities strategic plan.

The Board heard from the following public delegations:

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

1. SAMANTHA MACLEESE
2. FARNAZ FARHANG

The comments included the following topics:

- requests for the South Facility to be cancelled;
- concerns with police leading on the community safety and wellbeing plan and using the plan to justify the South Facility; and,
- suggestions on other ways the funds for the facility can be used to address the issues identified in the community safety and wellbeing plan.

Following the delegations, the Board had an opportunity to raise questions and make comments.

A question was raised about branding the South Facility in the context of the community safety and wellbeing plan (CSWBP) when the building itself does not address the issues identified in the plan. I/Chief Bell noted that the building is intended to support organizations and partnerships that are directly working on the issues identified in the CSWBP.

It was clarified that \$118 million is the current budget for the facility. The development charges collected to date are in a reserve.

A point was made that within the OPS's asset inventory, there are buildings that will need to come offline, others that need repairs, and others that are leased. One way or the other, the OPS will need to invest

in its facilities. The I/Chief is committed to exploring options and coming back to the Board with a report. At that point, a decision needs to be made on whether to move ahead or not.

The OPS has a 20-year facilities strategic plan that is now seven years old. The OPS is looking to refresh this plan.

That the Ottawa Police Service Board direct the Ottawa Police Service to:

- 1. Continue work on the South Facility and engage with other City services to explore opportunities for partnership and co-location in the new building.**
- 2. Re-examine the funding strategy for the project, taking into consideration inflationary and market pressures related to the delay of the project.**
- 3. Report back to the Board in November 2022 with an update on the project and a recommended path forward.**
- 4. Provide a refreshed Facilities Strategic Plan (FSP).**

Carried

Member Leiper dissented on 1,2, and 3, of the recommendation.

7.12 Professional Standards Unit - 2021 Annual Report

Chief's report

The Board heard from two public delegates:

- 1) Mwinyele
- 2) Marnie Wellar

Some of the comments made pertained to the following:

- a friendly exchange experienced by a delegate and an officer working in the Professional Standards Unit;
- accessibility supports at Police Board meetings;

- a comment that the report is misleading and concerning; and,
- concerns with how some complaints are processed.

Following the delegations, the Board had an opportunity to ask their questions.

A question was raised regarding the increase in public complaints. It was noted this a period of increased public scrutiny of police. Further, some complainants generated a large number of complaints. The Service pointed to the screen-out rate by the OIPRD.

The Service noted they are happy to take direction from the Board in terms of how these stats are reported. A suggestion was made to have this annual report come to the Board's Complaints Committee for a discussion.

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

Received

7.13 2021 Ottawa Police Service Annual Report, including 2021 Use of Force report

Chief's report

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

Received

7.14 Outstanding Board Inquiries & Motions: June 2022

Executive Director's report

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

Received

7.15 Letters of Commendation

Chief's report

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

Received

8. Other Business
9. In Camera Items
 1. Canada Day Briefing
 2. Personnel Matter
 3. Update on Operational Matter
 4. Legal Matter
 5. Delay Application

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

11. Next Meeting

Regular Meeting – Monday, July 25, 2022 - 4:00 PM

Original signed by K. Ferraro,
Executive Director

Original signed by Councillor E. El-
Chantiry, Chair