



Ottawa Police Services Board

Minutes 25

Monday, July 27, 2020, 4:00 PM

By Zoom

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Board Members:

Present: L.A. Smallwood, Councillor C. Meehan, D. Nirman, R. Swaita, Mayor J. Watson

Regrets: Councillor D. Deans (*medical leave of absence*)

CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Lynn Kennedy. Lynn Kennedy worked as the Board's Assistant for 16 years and passed away on June 30.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The Chair requested the Board's consent to add two new items to the public agenda:

- A report concerning reappointments of special constables to the OPS; and,
- A report concerning a three-year agreement to procure software for investigative purposes.

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm the amended Agenda of the 27 July 2020 meeting.

CONFIRMED as amended

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes #24 of the 22 June 2020 meeting

That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm Minutes #24 of the 22 June 2020 meeting.

CONFIRMED

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

The Board heard from the following public delegates on various topics. Following their presentations, they were all thanked for taking the time to come and speak to the Board.

1. ALEKSANDAR GOLIJANIN
2. PAUL DURBER, OTTAWA WITNESS GROUP
3. SARP KIZIR

4. ERICA IFILL, OTTAWA COALITION AGAINST MORE SURVEILLANCE
5. NAGAD ABDILLAHI
6. ETHAN SABOURIN
7. MAR KHORKHORDINA
8. KHADIJA EL HILALI
9. KATHRYN DESPLANQUE
10. EWART WALTERS, BLACK AGENDA NOIR
11. DAKOTA CHERRY
12. MADELEINE B. *(written submission only)*
13. JOHN WISHART *(written submission only)*

INQUIRIES

The following inquiries were raised by Board members:

Member D. Nirman - Use of force and de-escalation

This inquiry was raised as part of Item #14.

In the police manual and Use of Force training procedure for engagement in negotiations to de-escalate a situation, how important is the role played by language skills (i.e. addressing language barriers) in dealing with such situations; what steps is OPS planning to undertake and can a timeframe for definitive action be provided.

Member C. Meehan - Officers suspended with pay

Requested the number of police officers who are currently suspended with pay, along with context and benchmarking.

Acting Chair Smallwood - Cruisers parking on sidewalks

What direction is given to police officers on duty in terms of parking their police cruisers for non-emergency matters.

Acting Chair Smallwood - Handling of Mental Health Calls

How is a call for service handled by the OPS when it is known to be a mental health related call, as well as when officers are dispatched to a call where there is a mental health component that only becomes known on officer arrival.

Acting Chair Smallwood - Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan

What sort of input has the OPS been able to provide through the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan to better ensure police are able to focus on their mandate and better coordinate response with other social service providers, with a goal of achieving a more holistic response to community safety concerns.

Acting Chair Smallwood - Testing of substances seized in investigations

There are systems available to test substances seized as a result of investigations, such as drugs, that can give immediate results, as well as systems that take longer (more than 90 days). What system is the OPS currently using?

Member B. Johnson - Ongoing monitoring of OPS members' mental health and wellness

OPS members have been at the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic for about five months now. During this same time there has been extensive discussion in mainstream media and social media around defunding police services. Both of the factors may have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of OPS members. Have any measures been taken to date to monitor and/or evaluate the mental health and wellbeing of members during this period, and is there any need for additional health and wellness interventions.

Member D. Nirman - Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by OPS officers

Since the beginning of the COVID19 restrictions in March 2020, how much has the OPS spent in purchasing PPE for frontline officers; what instructions are issued to frontline officers who are interacting with the members of the public for wearing PPE; are instructions to wear PPE voluntary or mandatory; if mandatory, what are the penalties for non-compliance; if voluntary, why was it not made mandatory; what are the rights of citizens to refuse to answer or interact with frontline officers who are not wearing PPE and not maintaining physical distancing of the recommended 2 metres?

Member D. Nirman - Fees for collision report requests

The Ottawa Citizen reported in a story on July 24 that Ottawa Police demanded \$2,486 from a grieving family for a fatal accident report. Can you please provide the Board with the policy regarding providing reports to victims and the charging of fees; has the OPS charged this fee to other individuals in the past for similar requests and if so, can details be forwarded as well; if the OPS has charged a fee in the past as a cost recovery method, is there discretion to review the request for waiving such fees on a case by case basis.

Member C. Meehan – Members who have come forward following launch of Sexual Violence and Harassment Strategy

This inquiry was raised as part of Item #3.

How many members have come forward since the Sexual Violence and Harassment Strategy was launched in the spring?

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. CHIEF'S VERBAL REPORT

Chief's report

Presentation

A copy of the Chief's verbal report is available [online](#).

With respect to the various changes touched upon in the presentation, a question was raised as to whether community partners are ready for all of the changes.

The Chief noted that stakeholders and the Province have expressed a willingness around the changes and there is a lot of discussion taking place at all levels of government.

The Chief will be looking to complete the various organizational changes within the OPS over the next six months and there will be no additional funds requested for these changes, either this year or next.

It was noted that any sort of budget cuts would impact the ability of the OPS to fulfill the various community requests that have come forward, such as diversifying the OPS workforce.

The Chief advised that the OPS currently has mental health supports available

for calls for service eight hours a day, Monday to Friday and he is looking to have this expanded to 24/7, 365 days a year. He would like to see mental health practitioners embedded in the Neighbourhood Resource Teams. The OPS could look at hiring for these roles to address the need for support around mental health calls. It could also look at using grants to hold pilots or leverage partnerships with other agencies such as Ottawa Public Health. He also noted that the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan should be leading the coordination of services in the City, with the OPS acting as a support.

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

RECEIVED

2. POLICE AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR THE MENTALLY ILL IN CRISIS –
DR. SIMON HATCHER

Presentation

Dr. Hatcher presented to the Board on police and improving outcomes for the mentally ill in crisis. A copy of his presentation is available online.

A question was raised as to whether it would be worthwhile to issue a questionnaire to officers on their wellness. Dr. Hatcher answered no as officers tend to not like filling out questionnaires.

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

RECEIVED

3. UPDATE ON THE JOINT OPSB/OPS STRATEGY ON WORKPLACE SEXUAL
VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT

Presentation

A question was raised as to where the discipline of perpetrators fits in. It was noted that each case is handled individually and the review is currently exploring questions on discipline, when a complaint should be investigated externally, etc. Punishments will vary from case to case.

The entire system is being reviewed and once recommendations are made, they need to be implemented and then evaluated over the long term. A big focus is

being placed on encouraging people to come forward. There is an inconsistent approach currently in terms of intake, triage, investigation and resolution. Over time we will be able to evaluate the success of any changes we make.

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

RECEIVED

4. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLE: CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the appointment of Carleton University employee, Marie NISSAN, as Special Constable pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Form.

CARRIED

5. RE-APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLES: CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the re-appointments of Carleton University employees, Christopher MOY, Devon REEVES, Daryl SLATER and Ross SEAGER, 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

6. RE-APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLES: OC TRANSPO

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the re-appointments of OC Transpo employees, Elvis AZZI, Owen David ANDREWS, Jesse Alan Joseph FAUBERT, and Joshua Adam GIBEAULT, 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. "IGNITING THE SPIRIT" MINI GALA SERIES FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE WABANO CENTRE FOR ABORIGINAL HEALTH

Executive Director's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve funding for a table at the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health "Igniting the Spirit" mini gala series being held in October at the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health, at a cost of \$2,400 (before taxes).

CARRIED

8. OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT: 2019

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

9. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON 2019-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN

Chief's report

It was noted that system racism is not expressly noted in the strategic plan however it is addressed as part of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.

In terms of the hiring plan, there is a temporary freeze. The OPS has been in touch with recruits that were in the process. No job offers were made however the Service is staying in contact with them to hopefully move forward with a December class.

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

RECEIVED

10. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT – SECOND QUARTER 2020

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

11. COMPLAINTS REPORT, PART V – POLICE SERVICES ACT – SECOND QUARTER 2020

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

12. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS SECTION - 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

13. REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

14. RESPONSE TO INQUIRY I-20-08 – USE OF FORCE AND DE-ESCALATION
(PART 1)

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

15. RESPONSE TO INQUIRY I-20-09 – BODY WORN CAMERAS

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

16. LEGAL SERVICES STATUS REPORT – 2020 SECOND QUARTER

Board Solicitor's report

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

RECEIVED

17. BOARD MONITORING REQUIREMENTS STATUS REPORT: SECOND
QUARTER 2020

Executive Director's report

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

RECEIVED

18. OUTSTANDING BOARD INQUIRIES & MOTIONS – JULY 2020

Executive Director's report

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

RECEIVED

19. LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Chief's report

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

RECEIVED

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

20. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLE: OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE

Chief's report

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the re-appointments 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 Form.

CARRIED

21. THREE YEAR AGREEMENT

Chief's report

It was noted that there are a number of security firms that can do this type of work however only one vendor can handle all types of cellphones – Android or IOS. This is the reason for the sole source purchase. The software is for universal forensic extractions and it is only used when judicial authorization has been granted.

A question was raised as to whether this technology has been used before and the answer was yes, it has been used extensively. Current services are being supplied by the same company.

The importance of including these sorts of procurements as part of the public agenda was noted to ensure public transparency around how taxpayer dollars are being used.

That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve delegated authority to the Chief of Police to award a three year contract to procure software in the amount of \$165,000 USD (approximately \$223,000 CDN) required for the Computer Forensic Unit.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

That the Ottawa Police Services Board adjourn the public portion of its meeting to move In Camera to discuss confidential items pertaining to legal, labour relations and personal matters in accordance with Section 35(4)(b) of the Police Services Act.

CARRIED

IN CAMERA ITEMS

1. LEGAL MATTER INVOLVING A CONTRACT
2. LABOUR RELATIONS UNIT REPORT: 2ND QUARTER 2020
3. LABOUR RELATIONS MATTER
4. PERSONAL MATTER INVOLVING A NAMED INDIVIDUAL
5. LABOUR RELATIONS MATTER
6. LEGAL SERVICES STATUS REPORT – SETTLEMENTS, SECOND QUARTER 2020
7. LEGAL MATTER INVOLVING NAMED INDIVIDUALS
8. LEGAL MATTER INVOLVING A NAMED INDIVIDUAL

9. PERSONAL MATTER INVOLVING A NAMED INDIVIDUAL

10. CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING A COMPLAINT

ADJOURNMENT

The public meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm. The in-camera was scheduled to begin at 8:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting - Monday, September 28, 2020 - 4:00 PM

DRAFT