

MINUTES

OTTAWA-CARLETON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

CHAMPLAIN ROOM

16 JUNE 1997

5:00 P.M.

PRESENT

Chair: Mr. P. Vice
Vice Chair: Mr. A. Bouwers
Members: Mr. G. Baskerville, Ms. A. Boudreau, Councillor D. Holmes, Regional Chair
P. Clark

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

At the request of Mr. Gordon Williams, Elder, Odawa Native Friendship Centre, those assembled formed a circle and Elder Williams offered a prayer of thanks for the presence of good minds and good hearts. He then spoke about his many years of experience in various loci, saying these have provided him with unique experiences. In early 1997, Mr. Williams met Staff Sergeant George Savage and Ms. Zoye Coburn of the Race Relations and Diversity Section. With the support and enthusiasm of Chief B. Ford and Deputy Chiefs A. Mackie and R. Renaud, a partnership was formed to improve relations between police and the native community. Mr. Williams indicated there is a good feeling in the aboriginal community about the partnership and S/Sergeant Savage and Ms. Coburn are an integral part of the success of this program. He presented them with two stone carvings on behalf of the Odawa Native Friendship Centre, and he thanked the Police Services Board and Chief Ford for their continued support.

Chair P. Vice expressed his appreciation to all concerned and he encouraged them to continue the work they have begun.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Services Board confirm the Minutes of the 26 May 1997 meeting.

CARRIED

Note: Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation approved by the Board.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

False Alarm By-law

The Board Chair, Mr. P. Vice, asked whether Members would consent to hearing a presentation on the False Alarm By-law from a member of the public, notwithstanding the fact this item is not listed on the meeting agenda. Board members consented and Chair Vice invited Mrs. Margery Daeschel to address the Board.

Mrs. Daeschel said she felt it was not fair to be charged a fee for having a security system in one's residence. She explained the system had been installed after two break-ins (Police response time was three days) and she inquired whether the intent was to also charge for fire alarm systems, thereby paying double for protection.

Chair Vice described the public consultation process undertaken by the Board prior to the false alarm by-law being approved by Regional Council in December 1996. Sergeant John Ferguson, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Service (OCRPS) spoke about the discussions which took place between the OCRPS and alarm companies to attempt to address the issue of police time spent responding to false alarms. Alarm companies were also asked for their suggestions on how this problem could be resolved. The proposed by-law was submitted to the Police Services Board and was tabled for a period of two months, to allow for public consultation. The intent of the by-law is to provide cost-recovery for the service and to improve the safety of officers when responding to alarm calls.

Mrs. Daeschel suggested that the person(s) responsible for the false alarm(s) pay for the extra service. Sergeant Ferguson explained the by-law is in two parts: a registration fee of \$26. per year, and a progressive fine which is imposed after three or more false alarms. This is designed to make people understand that responding to multiple false alarms in residences or businesses is detrimental to police service. The registration program will allow police to contact every alarm holder on a yearly basis to inform them of the program, provide them with statistics on alarm response and give them information on alarm companies that may be providing better service than others. Registration will also help insure a better level of officer safety by tailoring the response to the actual premises.

Mrs. Daeschel described a situation where the security system in her home malfunctioned and this was considered a false alarm when it actually was not. Sergeant Ferguson pointed out the Police Service has no control over companies that install substandard equipment. He said it is estimated that 70% of problems are caused by operators setting their alarm(s) incorrectly. Sergeant Ferguson noted that 93% of the calls received are false and this is a situation the Police Service wants to address.

Chair Vice thanked Mrs. Daeschel for her comments, saying he could sympathise with the unpleasantness of receiving an unexpected bill for service. He pointed out that the Board

approved the approach described by Sergeant Ferguson as it was thought to be the best one. He indicated that Sergeant Ferguson would be available to meet with individuals and groups to explain the provisions of the by-law in greater detail.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. 1996 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT
- Chief's report dated 4 Jun 97

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

RECEIVED

2. PUBLIC COMPLAINTS REPORT (AS OF MAY 1997)
- Chief's report dated 3 Jun 97

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

RECEIVED

3. RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL FOR PARKING CONTROL SERVICES
- Chief's report dated 6 Jun 97

Mr. J. Murray, from Murray and Murray Parking Control Services, addressed the Board. He put forward the view that the appointment of persons to enforce municipal by-laws is covered under Section 53 of the Police Services Act and not Section 15 and this could have an impact on the appointment of by-law officers. Speaking to the differential police response, Mr. Murray indicated that in the present economic climate, many municipalities are open to discussions on cost-saving measures, and he suggested any decision be deferred until the report of the Differential Police Response Committee is made public. In reply to a question from Councillor D. Holmes, Deputy Chief A. Mackie indicated that any comment received from the Committee will be included in the forthcoming report.

Chair. P. Vice added there may be further discussions about privatization, and local municipalities will make their positions known to the Board. He assured Mr. Murray that the Police Service would keep him informed of upcoming discussions on this matter.

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

RECEIVED

4. **REPLACEMENT OF LEASE SPACE
FOR 275 BANK STREET COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICE**
- Planning and Development Approvals Department Commissioner's report
dated 6 Jun 97

Inspector Sue O'Sullivan, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Service (OCRPS) indicated that under the proposed new service delivery model, the existing District will be split in two, and the recommended location will be ideally suited for access for the northern part of the new District. In addition, the OCRPS is getting a large amount of square footage at a reasonable rate. Mr. John Shipman, representing the R.M.O.C.'s Property Services Department, said staff had originally hoped for a longer-term lease, but the building owners secured another tenant. The building is currently for sale, and there are indications the lessor will work with Property Services and any potential buyer to obtain alternate accommodation for the district office, if and when required.

Councillor D. Holmes asked when the Board could expect to receive a report on the proposed district model. Deputy Chief A. Mackie replied the report will be presented within the next three to four months.

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board authorize a lease with the Royal Bank for 5,982 ft² of office space (ground floor and basement) located at 290 Bank Street to be used as a Community Police Office, in the City of Ottawa for three months at \$4,500, excluding GST, with a month-to-month option after 3 months.

CARRIED

5. **CONTRACT FOR COMPUTER AIDED
DISPATCH/RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM VENDOR**
- Director-General's report dated 29 May 97

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board approve beginning contract negotiations with Versaterm for supplying the Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management System, and delegate to the Chief of Police the authority to approve the award of contract subject to available budget authority.

CARRIED

6. ACQUISITION OF WIDE AREA NETWORK MULTIPLEXING EQUIPMENT

- Director-General's report dated 6 Jun 97

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board authorize expenditures not exceeding \$350,000, plus applicable taxes, over the next two years for the acquisition of WAN Multiplexing equipment from Bell Canada.

CARRIED

7. ACQUISITION OF DIGITAL CORPORATION "VAX" EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

- Director-General's report dated 6 Jun 97

Member G. Baskerville asked about the target date for the system to be fully operational. The Director General, Mr. S. Kanellakos, replied that the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) will be installed in first quarter of 1998; the Records Management System (RMS) will follow in the remainder of 1998 and in the first three quarters of 1999. The Project Manager, Mr. Sebastian Cardarelli, replying to a subsequent question from Member Baskerville, indicated that any movement to a higher level of computer capability requires the purchase of a "right to transfer" license; this requirement has been in place since the original purchase of the records management system. Mr. Cardarelli added that the amalgamation of the Nepean, Gloucester and Ottawa police created a situation where information needs to be accessed by a larger group. The new licenses will allow information to be shared through a new Local Area Network (LAN) and this system will be used primarily for archival purposes.

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board authorize total expenditures not exceeding \$397,638, including taxes, over four years, for the acquisition of Digital VAX computer equipment and \$91,514 including taxes for RDB (Database Management software) licences.

CARRIED

8. APPROVAL PROCESS FOR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Chief's report dated 9 Jun 97

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

RECEIVED

9. REGULAR REPORT FROM THE CHIEF AND OPP INSPECTOR

- verbal update from Chief B. Ford and Inspector L. Beechey

Inspector L. Beechey circulated a copy of the Community Information Guide, a publication developed by the Cumberland O.P.P. detachment in co-operation with the Community Policing Committee. This document, which is fully funded by several local sponsors, provides a variety of information on services available. Inspector Beechey pointed out that approximately 5,000 copies of the Guide are in circulation; the intent is that it be delivered to every household in the Township of Cumberland, and possibly, subsequently, throughout Ottawa-Carleton.

Both Chair P. Vice and Member A. Bouwers, Vice-Chair, complimented Inspector Beechey on the quality of the publication and they indicated other services may be able to utilize this format.

Chief B. Ford highlighted the following activities:

- the Police Service is working hard to resolve the Region's fifth homicide (body of a woman found in a sports bag); no further details are available at this time;
- on May 16, the former Bilberry Creek Park (Township of Cumberland) was renamed Yves Richer Park by Mayor Brian Coburn in recognition of Constable Yves Richer's dedication to township youth;
- the Spring Auction was held on June 14 and netted approximately \$24,500;
- approximately 200 persons participated in the kick-off to renovating the youth centre on May 3;
- the Police Service has received 42 letters of appreciation for service to the community since the last Board meeting;
- Superintendent St Pierre, Inspector Burns, Mr. Randy Mar attended a Cumberland Safety Committee meeting to discuss issues of policing and the transition process and they have made a commitment to return in the Fall to discuss issues of concern.

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

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10. APPOINTMENT OF R.C.M.P. OFFICERS AS
SPECIAL CONSTABLES - CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS
- Regional Solicitor's report dated 6 Jun 97

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board:

1. **appoint as Special Constables pursuant to section 53 of the *Police Services Act* those regular members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who have been recommended by the Commanding Officer of the R.C.M.P. "A" Division and whose names have been submitted to the Chief of Police;**
2. **approve that the period of appointment be from Friday, the 27th day of June 1997 to Wednesday, the 2nd day of July 1997 inclusive, and that the appointment be valid within the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton.**

CARRIED

IN CAMERA

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board move In Camera to discuss a personnel matter, in accordance with Section 35(4)(b) of the *Police Services Act*.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

M. J. Beauregard
A/Secretary

P. Vice
Chair