



## BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS for the HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

### MINUTES December 13, 2023

PRESENT: Commissioner Harry Critchley, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Lindell Smith  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju  
Commissioner Gavin Giles

REGRETS: Commissioner Becky Kent, Chair  
Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer  
Martin Ward, Solicitor  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant  
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m., and recessed at 4:09 p.m.  
The Board reconvened at 4:10 p.m. The Board adjourned at 5:58 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. COMMUNITY ANNOUCEMENTS – NONE**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 15, 2023, November 22, 2023 and November 29, 2023**

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the minutes of November 15, 2023, November 22, 2023 and November 29, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Commissioner Blackburn requested that Item 8.3.1 Police Enforcement and Issuance of Summary Offence Tickets and Item 10.2.1 Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2024/25 Funding Request – Supplemental Information be considered prior to item 7.1.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – November 15, 2023**

**7.1 The Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated November 1, 2023

John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality adopt Administrative Policy One, The Procedures of The Board of Police Commissioners Administrative Policy, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated November 1, 2023.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 7.2 Amendments to the Board of Police Commissioners Policy Manual

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated November 1, 2023

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist spoke to the topic.

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality:**

1. **Approve the additions and amendments to the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated November 1, 2023; and**
2. **Direct staff to review the Stakeholder Engagement and Community Survey to Measure Trust and Confidence policies contained in the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual and assess progress in meeting the objectives outlined in these policies.**

Bates, John Traves, K.C., CD, Executive Director of Legal & Legislative Services/Municipal Solicitor/Chief Governance Officer and Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Bates highlighted the process to bring back potential amendments to streamline the Halifax Regional Police and Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police budgeting process. Traves noted elements of the Board's attendance policy and the *Police Act* provisions regarding Board member absences. O'Toole spoke to the Province's police governance review and potential recommendations that could be made to the Province regarding Board member absences.

Commissioner Smith proposed that the Board's Policy Manual and Business Plan Budget Review timeline be amended to specify that the Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police budget be presented concurrently with the Halifax Regional Police budget including public consultation. As provided for in section 53 (2) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality:**

1. **Approve the additions and amendments to the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated November 1, 2023; including amendments to the Board's Policy Manual and Business Plan Budget Review timeline to specify that the Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police budget be presented concurrently with the Halifax Regional Police budget including public consultation; and**
2. **Direct staff to review the Stakeholder Engagement and Community Survey to Measure Trust and Confidence policies contained in the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual and assess progress in meeting the objectives outlined in these policies.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

### 8.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item 8.3.1.

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

## **8.2 Petitions – None**

## **8.3 Presentations**

### **8.3.1 Police Enforcement and Issuance of Summary Offence Tickets**

The following was before the Board:

- Request to present dated November 9, 2023
- Correspondence from Norm Collins
- Presentation dated December 13, 2023

Norm Collins, Crosswalk Safety Association of Nova Scotia gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE CHIEF UPDATES**

Acting Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) provided updates on key operational activities, measures planned for impaired driving prevention month, recent HRP training sessions and recent HRP community initiatives. MacLean responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police (HRD RCMP) spoke to key operational activities and recent community outreach initiatives performed by the HRD RCMP community action response team.

### **10.2 STAFF**

#### **10.2.1 Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2024/25 Funding Request – Supplemental Information**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated December 13, 2023
- Staff presentation dated December 13, 2023

Martin Ward, Solicitor advised the Board that a new motion was necessary due to a procedural irregularity with the Board's November 29, 2023 motion regarding the Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police 2024-2025 Funding Request. Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer advised the Board of the procedural reasons for the submission of a staff report at the Board's December 13, 2023 meeting. Ward and O'Toole responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality recommend that the Halifax Regional Municipality Budget Committee consider the Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police resource request for additional six (6) regular member positions as part of the budget deliberations for the 2024-2025 operating budget.**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality receive the Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police (HRD RCMP) presentation regarding the HRD RCMP resource request for the 2024-2025 operating budget at the Board's December 13, 2023 meeting and defer consideration of the motion for Item 10.2.1 Royal Canadian Mounted**

**Police 2024/25 Funding Request – Supplemental Information to the Board’s January 2024 meeting in order for the Board to receive public input on the HRD RCMP resource request.**

**MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Darrell Harvey, Strategic Business Planner and Inspector Jeffrey Mitchell, Management & Administration Services Officer, Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police (HRD RCMP) gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Christie noted that changes in the “cop to population” ratio indicated a need for a consistent increase of police officers due to the ongoing population growth in the rural districts of Halifax Regional Municipality served by the HRD RCMP.

The Board clarified that the public input referenced in the deferral motion for Item 10.2.1 meant the submission of public feedback via written correspondence to the Board prior to the Board’s January 8, 2024 meeting and did not include the scheduling of a separate public engagement session.

**10.2.2 Board of Police Commissioners 2024-2025 Work Plan**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated November 29, 2023

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Smith

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality approve the action items and timeframes in the Board of Police Commissioners’ 2024-2025 Workplan, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated November 29, 2023.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**10.2.3 Board of Police Commissioners 2024 Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated December 4, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality approve the proposed meeting schedule for 2024, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated December 4, 2023.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE**

**13. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

**13.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – October 4, 2023 – Deferred from November 15, 2023**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of October 4, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.2 SECURITY MATTER – Private and Confidential Report – Deferred from November 15, 2023**

This matter was dealt with in public as follows:

The following was before the Board:

- Private and confidential staff report dated November 1, 2023

Deputy Chief Reid McCoombs, Halifax Regional Police spoke to the topic.

**14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 8, 2024**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Catie Campbell  
Legislative Assistant