



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
May 14, 2020**

PRESENT: Commissioner Natalie Borden, Chair  
Commissioner Carole McDougall, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Tony Mancini  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Lindell Smith  
Commissioner Carlos Beals

REGRETS: Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jane Fraser, Chief Financial Officer  
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor  
Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police  
Chief Superintendent Janis Gray, Halifax Detachment RCMP  
Martin Ward, Solicitor  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant  
Robyn Dean, 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 11:48 a.m. and adjourned at 1:00 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:48 a.m.

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

Additions: None

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

**4. REVISED HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE 2020/21 BUDGET**

Chief Dan Kinsella explained that as identified in their presentation to the Board on May 11, 2020, HRP was tasked with reducing their 2020-21 budget by \$5,514,000 in response to financial constraints on the Municipality due to COVID-19. HRP has identified reductions in compensation (\$4,033,000) and non-compensation (\$1,481,000). As instructed by the Board at the May 11, 2020 special meeting, they consulted with the Halifax Regional Police Association and concerns were raised regarding the potential impact to police services by not filling the 28 vacancies due to the hiring freeze and reductions. The Association proposed suggestions around vacancy management including: the use of reserve officers, hiring retirees on contract, early retirements and hiring new officers at a lower rate, and using funds from the municipality's operating reserve. Chief Kinsella explained that based on the timelines it would not be possible to fill vacancies at this time, but options were being considered for future planning which require further consultation with the unions and other business units.

Chief Kinsella responded to questions from the Board. The Chief clarified that vacancy management was used on a regular basis and that no positions were being eliminated. During COVID-19 adjustment have been made while ensuring effective and adequate policing.

The Board supported how police services were being managed during this difficult time and recognized that all business units were facing a similar situation with reductions to their budgets, however some members still had concerns with the amount of the budget reductions and potential impacts to emergency services. Chief Kinsella advised that redundancies are built in to ensure key function areas and required resources will be met and that HRP continues to assess and manage impacts.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Beals

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners:**

- 1. Forward the revised Halifax Regional Police 2020/2021 operating budget in the amount of \$84,263,000 to Halifax Regional Council; and**
- 2. Recommend Halifax Regional Council consult with the Province to determine if there could be any savings to the cost of RCMP services.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 15, 2020**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Krista Vining  
Legislative Assistant