



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
July 20, 2020**

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

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
John Traves, Municipal Solicitor
Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Janis Gray, Halifax Detachment RCMP
Martin Ward, Solicitor
Simon Ross-Siegel, 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.

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m. and convened In Camera (In Private) at 3:30 p.m. The Board reconvened in public session at 4:12 p.m. and adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the ancestral unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners noted a number of special community announcements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 9, 2020

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the minutes of July 9, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Deletions:

10.2.1 Defunding the Police – Discussion

Commissioners requested that 10.2.7 Commissioner Mancini – Wortley Report Update be dealt with ahead of item 10.1.2 Community Survey – Update.

MOVED by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

Two-third majority vote required.

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 – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence

The Legislative Assistant noted that correspondence was received relating to items 10.1.2, 10.2.1, 10.2.3, and 10.2.5. All correspondence was circulated to the Board.

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentations – None

9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

10.1 STAFF

10.1.1 HRM Wortley Report Recommendations – Update

- **Community Engagement**
- **Data Collection**
- **Street Check Ban**
- **Extension for Data Access**

Chief Kinsella provided an update on HRP's progress with the Wortley Report recommendations including information relating to community engagement, data collection, the street check ban, and the extension for data access. It was noted that some in-person community outreach initiatives have been impacted by Covid-19 public health measures and HRP is reviewing its approach to community outreach.

Janis Gray, Chief Superintendent of the Halifax Detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, provided an update on the Halifax District RCMP's progress with the HRM Wortley Report recommendations including information relating to community engagement, data collection, the street check ban, and the extension for data access.

The Board discussed the update with Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Janis Gray responding to questions.

In response to a question from Commissioners regarding the timeline for deidentifying street check data, Chief Kinsella stated that the HRP is on track to complete this work in 2020 in accordance with the Wortley Report. Several Commissioners discussed whether it would be valuable to consider a motion to extend the timeline in order to recognize the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, and it was recommended that this be considered an item for future business arising out of the minutes.

10.1.2 Community Survey – Update

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Correspondence from Dean Stienburg

Chief Kinsella provided an update on the progress of the community survey. The Board discussed the update with Chief Kinsella responding to questions. Chief Kinsella confirmed that the update in question is a community survey whereas other surveys are conducted internally for officers. It was also noted that both surveys are separate Wortley Report recommendations. Chief Kinsella stated that it is vital that the Board be involved in the process of the survey's development and members will be invited to provide comments and feedback regarding the wording of survey questions.

10.1.3 RCMP Request for Additional Resource

Chief Superintendent Gray provided an update on the RCMP's request for additional staff. The Board discussed the update with Chief Superintendent Gray responding to questions. It was noted that their previous request for an additional Staff Sergeant position will be withdrawn as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the RCMP will continue to assess resource requirements and pressures going forward.

10.1.4 Memorandum of Understanding between BOPC, HRM, & RCMP

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A memorandum dated May 7, 2020

The Board discussed the memorandum provided by Katherine Salsman, Solicitor with Martin Ward responding to questions.

10.1.5 Recruitment Policies and Processes for New Recruits

The Board discussed the recruitment policies and processes for new recruits with Chief Kinsella responding to questions.

10.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

10.2.1 Defunding the Police – Discussion

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group dated June 14 & July 8, 2020
- Correspondence from Mukisa Kakembo, Shauna Swinimer, Lorelei Carey, Jordan Roberts, and Krysten Rutherford

This item was deleted from the agenda during the approval of the order of business.

10.2.2 2020 BOPC Work Plan – Update

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A document entitled “Halifax Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan – 2020”

The Chair provided an update on the action items listed in the 2020 Board of Police Commissioners work plan. Commissioner Smith offered to lead planned actions for “Exploring and increasing public participation in meetings” and “Awareness of BOPC and its role”.

10.2.3 Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group dated June 14 & July 8, 2020

The Chair noted that a number of recommendations detailed in the correspondence received reflect items listed in the work plan and noted that work is ongoing.

10.2.4 Halifax Regional Council’s Motion of Rescission Regarding the Armoured Rescue Vehicle

- **BOPC Responsibility for Police Capital Budget Items**

The Chair began by outlining Halifax Regional Council’s motion of rescission regarding the armoured rescue vehicle that went to Council on June 9, 2020 and further went on to discuss the Board’s responsibility for police capital budget items. Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, stated that the working group forwards recommendations to steering committee who in turn provides advice to Regional Council regarding the capital budget. Several Commissioners suggested it would be value to explore options for more formal communication between the HRP Chief, the Board, and the Budget Committee during annual discussions of the capital budget.

10.2.5 Commissioner Mancini – Body Worn Video Pilot Project

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Mancini
- Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group dated June 14 & July 8, 2020

The Commissioners noted that technology has changed since the Board previously considered the implementation of body worn video cameras. Commissioners noted that it would be important to receive current information regarding the ability of body worn video camera systems to provide accountability and transparency while also acknowledging the importance of ensuring appropriate privacy protections.

Chief Superintendent Gray noted that the RCMP is currently engaging with their contract partners to deploy body-worn cameras and have been participating in studies regarding the feasibility of implementing these systems. Gray asked that if a staff report is requested, that due to Federal legislative requirements that the RCMP be able to provide information separately from HRP rather than collectively in order to keep information separate to avoid confusion.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Beals

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners requests a report detailing the feasibility of a body worn video pilot program for Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP patrol officers that addresses costs, benefits, and technological requirements.

The Board requested a friendly amendment to specify that the motion requests separate reports from Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP patrol regarding the feasibility of a body worn video pilot project, to which the Mover agreed. The motion before the board now reads:

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners requests reports detailing the feasibility of a body worn video pilot program from the Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP patrol officers that addresses costs, benefits, and technological requirements.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.6 Commissioner Mancini – Traffic Enforcement During State of Emergency

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Mancini

The Board discussed Commissioner Mancini's proposed motion regarding traffic enforcement during a state of emergency and changes in operating due to the Covid-19 pandemic with Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Janis Gray responding to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners requests an update detailing the status of traffic enforcement and community policing during COVID-19 and how Councillors should be directing traffic related complaints.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.7 Commissioner Mancini – Wortley Report Update

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Mancini

Commissioner Mancini proposed a process for providing written updates regarding the status of the Wortley Report recommendations and how this update could be made available to the public online. The Board discussed the proposed process and several members stated that in their view this information should be provided in a simple checklist or infographic format.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners requests that Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Gray provide a written update that details the status of the Wortley Report recommendations including plan, action steps, and progress at each meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners and provide a detailed quarterly update to Halifax Regional Council.

The Board requested a friendly amendment to remove the wording “and provide a detailed quarterly update to Halifax Regional Council” from the motion, to which the Mover agreed. The motion before the board now reads:

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners requests that Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Gray provide a written update that details the status of the Wortley Report recommendations including plan, action steps, and progress at each meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.8 Commissioner Blackburn – Public Access to HRP Policies via Website

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Blackburn

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

10.2.9 Commissioner Smith – Independent Opinion on Legal Council for Board of Police Commissioners

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Smith

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

10.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

10.3.1 Management Employee Relations Committee – Update

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

10.3.2 Canadian Association of Police Governance Board – Update

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

10.3.3 Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Board – Update

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

10.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 17, 2020.

11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE

13. IN CAMERA (In Private)

13.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – July 9, 2020

This item was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Beals

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the July 9, 2020 In Camera (In Private) minutes as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Commissioner Beals, seconded by Commissioner Smith

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene In Camera (In Private) to discuss the personnel matter.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 Personnel Matter – *Private and Confidential Update*

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner Beals, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners ratify the motion adopted In Camera (In Private) to defer decision on the item until a future meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Private and Confidential Information Items:

- 1. Correspondence dated May 8 & 11, 2020**
- 2. Correspondence dated April 11, 2020**

These matters were dealt with In Camera (In Private). No further action was taken.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 17, 2020

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant