



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
July 9, 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
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 12:34 p.m. and convened In Camera (In Private) at 2:59 p.m. The Board reconvened in public session at 3:45 p.m. and adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:34 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 – March 9 and May 11, 14, & 25, 2020

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Beals

THAT the minutes of March 9 and May 11, 14, & 25, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

11.1 Commissioner Smith - Independent Legal Opinion for Board of Police Commissioners

13.2 Personnel Matter – *Private and Confidential*

The Halifax Board of Police Commissioners agreed by consensus that item 10.2.3 be dealt with immediately following item 10.1.2.

Later in the meeting, the Board of Police Commissioners agreed by consensus to defer items 10.1.2 through 11.1 to the next meeting scheduled for July 20, 2020.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5.1 Follow-Up with FOIPOP Office

Dan Kinsella, Chief of the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) Department, provided the Board of Police Commissioners with an update on FOIPOP requests, informing the Board of Police Commissioners that information relating to FOIPOP requests is available on the HRP website and social media.

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 10.1.1, 10.1.4, and 10.2.1. 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 Defunding the Police – Presentation from the Office of Public Safety

- **Overview of Current HRM Public Safety Programs**
- **UN Safe Cities**

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A presentation entitled “Reimagine Public Safety”
- Correspondence from Brett Jerrett, Sarah MacPhee, Cameron Pollett, Heather Stewart, Christine Hughes, Anni Jefferson, Laura Millard-Ziegler, Zoe Sherwin, Ellen Zagar, Emma Brooks, Harrison Ellis, Clark MacIntosh, Wren Bond, Anne McKee, Wren Morris, Nicholle Savoie, Edson Castilho, John Kyle, Paul Routhier, Alec Soucy, Heather Elliott, Sara Kirk, Martha Radice, Michael Spearns, Rachel Keys, Melanie Seaward, and Tina Strickland

Amy Siciliano, Public Safety Advisor, and DeRico Symonds, Program Manager, Youth Advocate Program, provided a brief presentation outlining HRM’s current public safety programs. Siciliano referred to Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard’s presentation to Halifax Regional Council on July 7, 2020.

Symonds noted that public safety funding should be reimagined, reevaluated, and reallocated. Further, Symonds explained that defunding means to reallocate police funding to mental health supports, education, and social services in order to address the root causes of crime and victimization.

Siciliano reviewed history of prevention, reallocation, and culture shifts. It was noted that history shows that attention needs to be given to the root causes of crime that are often social in nature and the disproportionate harm that the criminal justice system has upon Black, Indigenous, and people of colour as well as those suffering from mental health issues.

The Board discussed the presentation with staff responding to questions. It was noted that defunding needs to be adequately defined so that the Board can guide how they make decisions relating to policing functions and the reallocation of resources for community supports.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Smith

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners appoint a Community Advisory Committee to assist in adopting a definition of defunding the police and that the Committee present this definition at a future meeting of the Board for further discussion and debate. Further, the definition of defunding the police should be based on the following:

- **Police performing policing functions;**
- **Allocating appropriate resources to perform non-police functions; and,**
- **Investing in resources that have been proven to support community risks and promote crime prevention.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Siciliano and Symonds continued their presentation outlining HRM's current public safety programs. Siciliano detailed that HRM public safety programs are grounded in the Clairemont Report and Review that promotes "upstream intervention" with a focus on enhancing social infrastructure. Siciliano also discussed HRM's participation in the UN Women Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces for Women and Girls program and touched on the development of additional HRM programs including Women's Safety Audits.

The Board discussed the presentation with Siciliano and Symonds responding to questions.

10.1.2 HRM Wortley Report Recommendations – Update

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

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.3 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"

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.4 Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Policing Policy Working Group

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.5 Community Survey – Update

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.6 RCMP Request for Additional Resource

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.7 Halifax Regional Council's Motion of Rescission Regarding the Armoured Rescue Vehicle

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

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Correspondence from Adam Travis, Brett Jerrett, Annabelle Linders, Sarah MacPhee, Cameron Pollett, Heather Stewart, Christine Hughes, Laura Millard-Ziegler, Zoe Sherwin, Ellen Zagar, Emma Brooks, Harrison Ellis, Clark MacIntosh, Kelsey McKenzie, Wren Morris, Margaret Sagar, Nicholle Savoie, Edson Castilho, Adrienne Richey, Paul Routhier, Alec Soucy, Alida Bundy, Heather Elliott, Violeta Izquierdo, Claudia Jahn, Sara Kirk, Martha Radice, Michael Spearns, Rachel Keys, Christopher Murphy, Melanie Seaward, and Tina Strickland

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.1.8 Memorandum of Understanding between BOPC, HRM, & RCMP

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A memorandum dated May 7, 2020

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

10.2.1 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 Brin Jones, Kyle DeYoung, Brett Jerrett, Annabelle Linders, Sarah MacPhee, Cameron Pollett, Heather Stewart, Anni Jefferson, Bernie Scott, Emma Brooks, Harrison Ellis, Clark MacIntosh, Kelsey McKenzie, Wren Bond, Nicholle Savoie, Sage Beatson, Alida Bundy, and Rachel Keys

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.2.2 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

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.2.3 Commissioner Mancini – Wortley Report Update

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Mancini

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on July 20, 2020.

10.2.4 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 July 20, 2020.

11. ADDED ITEMS

11.1 Commissioner Smith – Independent Legal Opinion 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 July 20, 2020.

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE

13. IN CAMERA (In Private)

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

This item was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 Personnel Matter – *Private and Confidential*

This item was dealt with In Camera (In Private). No further action was taken.

Private and Confidential Information Items:

1. **Correspondence dated May 8 & 11, 2020**

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 20, 2020

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood
Legislative Assistant