



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
November 16, 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
Martin Ward, Solicitor
Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Janis Gray, Halifax Detachment RCMP
Inspector Erin Pepper, Halifax District Detachment RCMP
Robyn Dean, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Board of Police Commissioners at a future regular meeting.

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.

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The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m. and adjourned at 2:59 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 – September 21, 2020

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the minutes of September 21, 2020 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

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 – None

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentations

8.3.1 Proposal from Committee on Defunding the Police – El Jones

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A presentation titled “Halifax Board of Police Commissioners ‘Defunding’ Committee”

El Jones provided a presentation outlining the terms of reference for the Committee on Defunding. This presentation included a discussion on the background on defunding the police, definitions and examples of defunding, the composition of the proposed committee, the committee's goals in terms of public engagement, the proposed research report, and a rough timeline.

The Board discussed the presentation with Jones responding to questions. Some key points included:

- The committee plans to communicate with the public and gather a broad group of opinions during their community engagement.
- There are some concerns about budgeting for honorariums and resources for the committee. It was noted that these discussions are ongoing, and that work is happening behind the scenes to determine a budget for this committee.

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- The committee will have to determine how defunding would work given that Halifax is jointly policed by both the Halifax Regional Police Department and the Halifax District Detachment of the RCMP. It was noted however that the report coming from this committee would be for HRM policing.

The Chair noted that if the Board agreed with the proposal in principle and unless there were any major red flags, a motion could be passed to approve the committee's terms of reference.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners:

1. **Adopt the proposal in principle from the Committee on Defunding, as defined in the presentation dated November 16, 2020;**
2. **Strike a working group of the Board with the Chair to determine its composition and for this working group to address specific issues such as budget to bring back for consideration by the Board of Police Commissioners; and,**
3. **Allow El Jones to begin planning the work for the Committee on Defunding.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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**
- **Tracking Document**

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A spreadsheet dated September 21, 2020

This item was deferred by consensus. The Chair noted that a detailed spreadsheet with progress updates is available on Halifax.ca.

10.1.2 RCMP Request for 2021/2022 Budget

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A handout titled "Halifax District Budget Overview"
- A handout titled "Halifax District Funding Request"

Chief Superintendent Janis Gray outlined the Halifax District Budget for 2020/2021 and discussed the funding request from the RCMP for 2021/2022.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners forward the funding request to Halifax Regional Council for consideration and discussion with Nova Scotia's Department of Justice.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.1.3 HRP Second Quarter Budget Update & Preliminary 2021/2022 Budget

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A presentation titled “Halifax Regional Police 2nd Quarter Operating Financials”

Craig Horton, Financial Coordinator for the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) Department, provided a brief presentation on HRP’s second quarter operating financials and responded to questions from the Board.

Chief Dan Kinsella provided a high-level overview of the proposed 2021/2022 budget and noted that the biggest request will be to cover the costs of the body-worn cameras. It was also noted that a more detailed presentation will come forward at the December 14, 2020 meeting of the Board.

10.1.4 Proceeds of Crime

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.1.5 Summary Offence Ticket Funds

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.1.6 Update on Community Survey

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.1.7 Update on the Body-Worn Camera Pilot Program

Chief Kinsella provided an update on the Body-Worn Camera Pilot Program and responded to questions from the Board. Chief Superintendent Gray also provided an update on the RCMP’s preliminary deployment of body-worn cameras.

10.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

10.2.1 Update on BOPC 2019/2020 Workplan

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- A handout titled “Halifax Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan – 2020”

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.2.2 Status Update on Independent Opinion on Legal Council for Board of Police Commissioners Report

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.2.3 Commissioner Borden – Role of BOPC Chair

Commissioner Borden noted that they will be stepping down from their role as Chair at the end of 2020 but will continue serving on the Board as a regular member.

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10.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

10.3.1 Management Employee Relations Committee – Update

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.3.2 Canadian Association of Police Governance Board – Update

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.3.3 Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Board – Update

This item was deferred by consensus.

10.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

This item was deferred by consensus.

11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE

13. IN CAMERA (In Private) – NONE

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 14, 2020 *(rescheduled from December 21, 2020)*

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Robyn Dean
Legislative Assistant