

Chatsworth Police Services Board

April 14, 2005

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Chatsworth Police Services Board was held on the above date.

Present: Board Members Bob Elliot, Cornelius Vlieland, Bill Coke, Officer Ken MacPherson, and Grace Nayler, Secretary.

Ken Walker and Angela Rust attended the meeting regarding the speed of traffic on Highway 10 through the Hamlet of Berkeley.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Call to Order

Adoption of Minutes

008/2005 *Moved by Bill Coke*

Seconded by Cornelius Vlieland

That the minutes of the February 17, 2005 be accepted as circulated.

Carried.

Information Correspondence:

a) Ken Walker – Letter regarding speed limit reduction in the hamlet of Berkeley. At this time Mr. Walker and Ms. Rust made their presentation regarding their concerns of the excessive traffic, speed and the potential hazards that exist in the hamlet of Berkeley. The aggressive traffic, mixed with school buses picking up and dropping off children, children and seniors crossing the road, residents walking to the post office, and a horse riding program that results in horses traveling on the side of the highway, all present a tremendous risk for an accident to occur. A petition was circulated with signatures they are asking for the support of the board so that they can pursue a change in the speed limit with the Ministry of Transportation.

Ms. Rust touched on reasons that warrant the lower speed limit. Items mentioned include the fact that the numbers of vehicles using the highway are much higher in volume than in past years. Friday afternoons result in a huge increase in traffic flow as people migrate north for the weekend and again on Sundays as they return. The hamlet is situated in a valley between two hills and as cars approach the hamlet they are unaware that it is there until they are right on it. Buses stopping on the highway in the morning and evening pose an added problem when vehicles going at high speeds have to suddenly stop, especially large trucks.

Concerns were raised as to the results of the upcoming construction and the concrete lip curbs that MTO have planned put in during construction. Officer MacPherson suggested that they should approach MTO for the accident statistics for Highway 10. He also suggested that they find out if during the construction, the hills can be reduced so that the hamlet is more visible to traffic when entering the hamlet area. Office MacPherson stated that he will give his full support for the reduction of the speed limit to 50 km/hr through the hamlet.

The board was asked for their support.

*009/2005 Moved by Bill Coke
Vlieland*

Seconded by Cornelius

That the recommendations of Ken Walker and Angela Rust regarding the reduced speed on Highway 10 in the hamlet of Berkeley be forwarded on to the Council of the Township of Chatsworth for their support in approaching MTO to reduce the speed in that area. The Chatsworth Police Services Board is in full support of their recommendations. Carried.

Bill Coke is going to draft a letter to the project manager requesting a reduction in the speed limit along with a request for flashing hazard lights to be installed in front of the Holland Chatsworth Central School.

Items b, c, d, e, and f were noted and filed.

Item g) OPP – Chatsworth Police Services Board Reports: February, March 2005 – Chatsworth Police Services Board: Statistics Report; 2005 Business Plan Commitment Report.

Officer MacPherson reviewed the reports with the board. The incident of February 27 resulted in a male being arrested overnight. Officer MacPherson wanted the board to know that the occurrence involved an extremely aggressive and violent subject that took 7 officers to arrest.

An incident in March caused officers to be dispatched to a residential party. The party involved a large number of uninvited guests, one of which was extremely uncooperative resulting in the officers having to use pepper spray to control him.

Officer MacPherson reported that the drivers who are charged with excessive driving speed are now named in these reports.

Police officers executed a search warrant on a property in Sullivan Township. The result was a man being charged after a child pornography investigation was completed.

There were a couple of complaints that were received by the OPP during the months of February and March. These complaints were resolved either by a letter of apology, an explanation of the powers bestowed on officers, and in one case the superior officer meeting with the officer.

There were several tributes received during these same months. The Regional Coroner was forwarded a letter thanking them for their assistance in the case.

Constable Shane was thanked for his presentation to a local seniors group to make them aware of frauds and the topic of elder abuse.

Other officers were thanked for their conduct and concern during several events throughout February and March.

Two Traffic Initiatives were launched for the months of February and March. The first one was “Windows to Afford Clear View”, section 74 of the Highway Traffic Act, informing the public that no person shall drive a motor vehicle upon a highway unless the windows are in such a condition as to afford the driver a clear view. The second was a focus on the requirement of drivers to stop for School Buses while they are receiving or discharging passengers.

Other OPP initiatives included a training seminar covering the topics of Robbery and the Trespass to Property Act and Powers of Arrest. This seminar was targeted for Business People and their Employees to attend.

Crime prevention education for the month of February involved the topic of Fraud and in March involved the topic of Methamphetamine Laboratories.

Officer MacPherson pointed out that overtime for the months of February and March were higher than budgeted overtime as a result of the grow house in Williamsford and the stolen car in Chatsworth.

The OPP were commended for their efforts in uncovering both a grow house operation and a pornography operation that were occurring in the Township of Chatsworth.

New Business

Next Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2005 at 10:00 am

Adjournment

010/2005 Moved by Cornelius Vlieland

Seconded by Bill Coke

That the Chatsworth PSB adjourn at 11:40 a.m.

Carried.