

Chatsworth Police Services Board

December 20, 2007

MINUTES

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

Present: Board Members Frank Beirnes, Bob Elliot, Cornelius Vlieland, Inspector Mark VanLanduyt, and Grace Nayler, Secretary.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Call to Order

Adoption of Minutes

015/2007 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland* *Seconded by Frank Beirnes*

That the minutes of October 18, 2007 be accepted as circulated.

Carried

013/2007 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland* *Seconded by Frank Beirnes*

That the invoice for flowers of bereavement be moved for payment through the PSB Budget.

Carried.

Financial Reports:

Information Correspondence

**Item a) OPP – Chatsworth Police Services Board Reports:
 August and September 2007
 Statistical Reports – August and September 2007**

The Commander began the meeting with his report on the August and September Chatsworth Police Services Board Report for August and September. The Commander wanted to bring to the attention of the Board that there were several Drug related occurrences in the current month. He reported that when there are drug related cases, there ends up being overtime because of the nature of the protocol that is involved. The OPP have noticed a significant amount of activity in processing and selling of illegal drugs in the Grey County area. In the Township of Chatsworth there were 4 incidents with drugs. The Commander also wanted the board to know that where there are drugs there are usually firearms. Firearms that are not properly stored and are therefore a danger.

The Board wanted to know what the resulting court penalties that are given to people with this activity and stated that there does not seem to be stiff, effective penalties for these crimes. The penalty usually is fairly lenient and does not deter criminals from continuing activity in drug crimes.

The Commander also reported that there was an incident involving a domestic dispute. This occurrence resulted in overtime being used to investigate increasing the amount of overtime for the month.

The Commander also wanted to point out to the Board that they experienced a careless storage of firearms at a home where the family were removing their grandfather's house contents and found a grenade and a handgun that was loaded. The OPP want people educated to the fact that if they run into any type of weapon that they are not familiar with to call the local police to handle the weapon(s) for them.

Statistical information was reviewed and it was brought to the Board's attention that there was a very significant increase in Seat Belt enforcement. The OPP have been using an aggressive approach to Seat Belt checks in the hopes of instilling the need for passengers to use their seat belts.

Night time RIDE program experienced a 59% increase in checks. This again, is an aggressive enforcement initiative that lead to these results.

Overall driver contacts were increased by 20%.

The report on Arrests for Drinking and Driving were up by 11.26%. OPP have been experiencing fewer impaired drivers that once brought to the station, do not blow over due to the delay in time and end up receiving a 12 hour suspension instead of being charged and receiving a 90 day suspension.

Personal Injury Motor Vehicle Collisions stayed basically the same, with these occurrences happening mostly on the major highways and major county roads.

Motor Vehicle Collisions were down drastically from the previous year, they were down by 23%.

Contract Hours continue to be met and exceeded substantially every month. This continues to benefit the taxpayers by supplying them with more service for the same dollars.

After completing his report, the Commander informed to Board that the Detachment had received an e-mail from the Mayor thanking them for their proactive and effective endeavours in drug enforcement.

Discussion led to the ineffective Court decisions that do not deter these activities from occurring. As a result, the Officers in some cases just end up destroying the crop. When the Courts do not look at guilt or innocence then the Police forces react in a different fashion then they would if they knew that laying drug charges would be properly sentenced.

One of the answers may be to decriminalize marijuana. In so doing, it would allow for tickets the same as Alcohol without having to go through court proceedings unless contested.

The Commander ended his report by informing the Board that future statistical reports will reflect the new contract required.

b) Noise By-Law Problem

The Commander reported to the Board that the problem with a Police Officer's dog barking has been dealt with by the OPP. The Commander had 5 incident reports dating between June 24 and Sept. 17, 2007 with him and stated that the note in the Agenda was absolutely incorrect.

The Commander went on to report that there have not yet been charges laid, but the Commander is looking into the issue, he has documented responses and the OPP are taking internal steps to investigate this issue because it is a Police Officer. The Commander stated that the complainant had every right to seek a lawyer. He has also stated that in some of the cases, it was not just the one dog causing noise problems, that there are other dogs in the area also barking, and that the determination that the one dog is the cause has not yet occurred.

c) Twp Chatsworth OPP Contract By-Law

The Commander reported to the Board that the new Contract from February 1, 2007 to January 31, 2012 had been signed by the Township and that the By-Law was now in force. The Commander went over the changes in the Contract compared to the draft Contract that was prepared earlier in the year. The result was that there is a further 3,348 dollar decrease to the total Contract dollars that are the responsibility of the Township of Chatsworth.

The difference in the overall amount being more that the Draft Contract is the vehicle that has been included in the Township of Chatsworth's contract that is actually for the Municipality of Grey Highlands and the Township of Southgate, who are responsible for payment to the Township of Chatsworth.

The new Contract covers all of the same services as the previous, including the enforcement of Township By-Laws except for Animal Control and Building By-Laws. These two by-law enforcements are the responsibility of the Municipality.

d) Victim Services of Grey Bruce Owen Sound - The Commander wished to inform the Board that the statistics in the report from Victim Services reflects the significantly more used calls to Victim Services from the Grey County Detachment than any other Detachment. This is because of the Pro-active protocols used by the Grey County Detachment as opposed to the others.

Items e,f,g were noted and to be filed.

The Secretary is to inform Zone 5 that the members will be attending the meeting on December 12, 2007.

New Business

Next Meeting

Thursday December 20, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

014/2007 Moved by Cornelius Vlieland

Seconded by Frank Beirnes

That the PSB adjourn at 11:15 a.m.

Carried.