

Chatsworth Police Services Board

December 15, 2011

MINUTES

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

Present: Board Members Bob Elliot, Frank Beirnes, Cornelius Vlieland, Detachment Commander Bob Mahlberg and Grace Nayler, Secretary.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Adoption of Minutes

11/2011 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland*

Seconded by Frank Beirnes

That the minutes of October 20, 2011 be accepted as circulated.

Carried.

Financial Reports:

Information Correspondence

Item a) OPP – Chatsworth Police Services Board Reports:
 October & November 2011
 Statistical Reports – October & November 2011

The Commander reviewed the Detachment Commander's Report for the months of October and November, 2011. Noteworthy occurrences were mentioned, but not gone into in detail. All members had reviewed the report and had no questions. Crime Unit Operations were reviewed noting that the Township of Chatsworth only had 2 occurrences for the entire months of October and November, which was a very good result.

There were no Secondary Employment items listed for the period of the report. Letters of tribute resulted in three tributes in the month of November all thanking officers for their conduct during specific incidents that occurred.

Detachment initiatives included Aggressive Driving and R.I.D.E. program. The festive R.I.D.E. program is now in full action and will continue throughout the Holiday Season.

Officer Activities show a breakdown by % of the way officers' time is spent. The statistics show that obligated duties uses the most amount of officers' time at 56.0 % in October and 69.1% in November. The second largest amount of time was spent on Admin Duties at 25.0% in October and 13.2% in November. The third largest amount of time was spend on Patrol Hours at 13.9% in October and 15.3% in November, and the lowest amount of time being Court duties at 5.1% in October and 2.4% in November.

The Financial (overtime) report showed that there was very little overtime in October, at 6.75 hours in total. In November there was a total of 27.0 hours in overtime due to a sudden death discovered at the end of a shift, an impaired driver, 2 suspended driver incidents, a motor vehicle collision and threats incidents. The Commander reported that overall, unless something significant happens, the contract overtime will again be as significantly less in the second half of the year as was reported for the first half of the year which will result in a fairly substantial credit for the Municipality for the 2011 year. The Commander reported that he and his officers are very diligent in not experiencing overtime if it is at all able to be avoided; they are very cognizant of the result that this provides to the contracted municipalities.

The Statistical reports were reviewed. Noted statistics included Occurrences which had a 3.19% variance which is a fairly stable number. Motor Vehicle Collisions show that there was a 20% increase in collisions however this was the result of a snow storm which caused 37 accidents in one day. This is due to drivers not driving their vehicles according to weather conditions. Contract hours remain stable. Contract overtime hours are way down showing a 44.73% decrease. Again, overtime hours are looked at very carefully.

The Business Plan Commitments report was reviewed. Night Time RIDE hours were up 6.51%. Driver contacts were down 9.72% which shows that the Officers did not stop as many vehicles. This will be the result of job assignments that changes that ratio meaning Officers having to attend to other duties instead of Driver Contacts.

Arrests for Drinking and Driving Offences continue to decrease at a significant rate, 19.27% fewer offences than in the previous year at this time. The Commander reported that they continue to see this trend happening which is a great occurrence. It means that less people are drinking and driving and it automatically results in fewer Personal Injury Motor Vehicle Accidents from occurring, which the statistics show being down 15.08%.

Property Crime incidents were down 8.67%. The Commander reported that internal OPP statistics for Western Region came out and showed that the Grey County OPP Detachment is number 1 in showing Property Crime results out of 15 Detachments by a large numbered difference. This result has been maintained since the Commander has been there and before. The Officers at the Chatsworth Detachment has a high ability to solve crimes and should be commended.

Foot patrol was up 9.04%. Foot patrol is more important to the Commander for his officers than Bike Patrol, so he has them focus more on Foot patrol. It is important for Officers to be amongst the people and be accessible to the community.

Item b) Billion Dollar Problem was discussed by the Board. The Commander reported to the Board how the fines used to be dealt with by the OPP and other Police Services. Cars were stopped and if outstanding fees were in effect, the vehicle was seized until fines were paid or the individual was placed in jail for an equivalent amount of time and the fees then dropped. It was decided that this was too harsh a punishment to offenders and this method of handling outstanding fees was abolished. Now there is no avenue for Police Forces to force payment.

Other problems that occur are drivers that come up from the States and refuse to make payment with no avenue of collecting and drivers driving without a license. Drivers driving without a license are becoming more and more of a problem in society.

Item c) 2012 Policing Costs were reviewed by the Board. The Commander Reported to the Board that overtime and expenditures reported in the internal OPP statistics for Western Region showed that the Chatsworth Detachment also experienced the lowest amount of overtime and the lowest amount of expenditures of all of Western Region Detachments. The Commander reported that this was a matter of looking at how you do business and how you spend money. The Commander looks at, and approves, all expenditures. He noted that this does not mean stopping normal business or costs from happening. He credits front line officers and supervisors for their due diligence in not spending needlessly. He reported that once again, the Detachment will be under budget for the 2011 year.

The Commander noted that the 2012 Policing Costs as reported for the 2012 year are only in effect for the month of January as the contract expires on January 31, 2012. The Commander warned the Board that the costs for the old contract were based on 2003 formulas and the new contract will be based on 2010 formulas.

12/2011 *Moved by Freank Beirnes*

Seconded by Cornelius Vlieland

That the Chatsworth Police Services Board do now go into closed session to discuss an item which relates to a matter in respect of which a council, board, committee or other body has authorized a meeting to be closed under another Act. Carried.

13/2011 *Moved by Frank Beirnes*

Seconded by Cornelius Vlieland

That the Chatsworth Police Services Board does now leave closed session. Carried.

The Commander also took this time to explain to the Board the inequity of shared services with other Police Departments. He explained that if we require the services of Owen Sound Police or West Grey Police forces, the municipality will be billed for their assistance. However, if the OPP assist the Owen Sound Police or West Grey Police forces, the OPP does not charge them anything for providing services to them. He feels that this inequity is wrong and it takes away from the service the OPP is contracted to provide to municipalities. He informed the Board that this issue is being looked at by the OPP.

Item d) Community Satisfaction Survey

The Commander felt that this survey provided the OPP with a significant amount of information. He was pleased to see that 99.0% of those surveyed felt safe in the community, and that 92.4% felt safe walking at night. 93.4% felt very satisfied with the police service they were receiving and 92.4% felt the detachment was approachable and friendly.

Community issues that the Commander would like to address involved youth and street gangs. Speeding issues were brought to light and the Commander hopes to look into these concerns. Speeding and speed limits in the Hamlet areas was discussed by the board and noted the inconsistencies in the different areas. Another area that the Commander will be looking into is the results to whether the OPP are providing enough information to the public about their local programs and initiatives.

The Commander will be leaving in February, 2012. The Board wished him the very best in his new appointment and thanked him for his service within our community and expressed their appreciation for his effective and diligent work.

New Business

14/2011 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland*

Seconded by Frank Beirnes

That the Chatsworth Police Services Board adjourn at 11:32 a.m.

Carried.

Next Meeting

Thursday February 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.