

Riverdale Municipality Police Board
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2022
Riverdale Municipal Office Boardroom

Present: David Creighton - Chair, Board Members Kiarra Peters, Gerry Gourlay and Denis Rondeau, and Chief Lon Schwartz.

Regrets: Riverdale CAO Kat Bridgeman

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Denis moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Kiarra.

Carried

Gerry moved to accept minutes of the previous meeting as distributed electronically, seconded by Kiarra.

Carried

New Business:

- Regionalization Update: David advised that although they planned to meet with representatives of interested neighbouring municipalities at the Association of Manitoba Municipal Meeting (AMM) in Winnipeg they could not secure a break out room for their use during the convention. A meeting will be organized soon in Brandon with the four municipalities. There are new councils in some RM's so will need to make initial contact with them. Each interested municipality will need to consider a cost - benefit assessment for their community. Regionalization will be a council decision once all the information is distributed and reviewed. The Chief advises that he has had conversations with Cam Baldwin, Director of Municipal Policing for Manitoba about this regionalization prospect. Cam is very supportive and interested in following our progress as this is a topic they have discussed in their meetings as well.
- Budget 2022 YTD update: Kat was unable to attend today's meeting so we didn't have an official budget YTD update but Chief Schwartz had received some information from the Mun office. There are areas such as vehicle costs and office supplies which are over budget. Another area to check is that it appears as though benefits are being paid to constables on their earnings received through MPIC funding. Chief Schwartz will investigate that situation.
- Budget 2023 planning: David will ask Kat to send out 2022 budget report so we can review to prepare for discussions for preparing a budget for the new year.

- Review of Budget 2022 (office expense): This budget line object is of concern due to it being significantly over budget (\$3,000 budgeted but \$8,000 actual to date) Chief Schwartz will have a close look at the expenses in that area. But he did notice that we have been getting double billed for some photocopying services. There are charges appearing from a company that we no longer use for that service. There must be automatic invoicing that was not cancelled on their part.
- Support from Head of Council: David reports that HoC Heather Lamb is very involved in reviewing emergency services programs that are in place in our community. She has a keen interest and background knowledge in such planning.
- Vehicle status: Chief Schwartz has been in discussions with RCMP regarding their surplus vehicles. In recent times all of the RCMP vehicle get destroyed as a result of the Nova Scotia mass casualty incident. However, this policy was reviewed and changes made to allow accredited police agencies to obtain surplus vehicles. The municipality will be responsible to ensure the vehicle is destroyed once it is taken out of service. The result is that we will be receiving a 2019 Tahoe with 145,000 kms for free from the RCMP. It will come with some police specific equipment already installed. This is very good news and this vehicle should meet our needs for a couple of years.
- VEMA (Vehicle and Equip Management Agency): As discussed in previous meetings we are able to apply for a vehicle to lease through VEMA. It is a good deal for municipalities but limited supply and high demand. The earliest we would qualify for consideration for a VEMA vehicle would be Aug 2023.
- Staffing: Our Constable Dennis Rollins has accepted a position with Regina PS. Dennis has been a very valuable asset for our unit and will be missed. Chief Schwartz has found a replacement for the short term. Chief Schwartz reports that he is having difficulty in keeping up with all the operational and administrative duties that he is currently doing. This heavy workload is mainly due to having such a young constable group with little training / skill sets to conduct some of the more advanced tasks such as search warrants and police computer program admin. He would like to hire a Sergeant position that would replace a Constable position. The Sgt would be a more experienced officer and able to take on a senior leadership role to support the unit. The difference in wages of a Sgt from a Cst is currently approximately \$8,000. It was also suggested that a civilian admin support may also be a benefit in completing all the required admin duties and allowing the officers to be on the road and conducting investigations rather than sitting at a computer in the office.
- MFNP support: (MB First Nations Policing) Chief Schwartz had the opportunity to meet with MFNP Chief and obtained thousands of dollars of uniform shirts and pants for free. MFNP has changed the colour of their uniforms so had no use for all their stockpiled uniform kit supplies. This is another example of the reputation of our police service and of our Chief among our policing partners.

- Postponement of Andrew Minor visit: The visit by the Exec Director of the MB Police Commission was postponed and expected to be rescheduled for a January date. Andrew was coming out to meet with new board and council members for an informational meeting.
- 501 lights: David asked Chief Schwartz to check the overhead red / blue lights on vehicle 501 as he noticed one night that they appeared to be very dull and ineffective during a vehicle stop on the highway.
- Body Camera's: Camera's cost \$3,500 each which includes all auto downloaded data and secure storage. It is possible that camera's may be mandated for all police as they have been a very effective tool. Chief Schwartz will check on possible funding sources through the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund.

Old Business:

- Update from previous minutes regarding radio dispatch charges. Chief Schwartz has learned that we have not been charged for our radio usage when we had been assisting Cornwallis Police in their area.
- Unit 501 remote start: No update on a remote starter for this unit.
- The new exhibit fridge that was approved for purchase at last meeting has arrived.
- The new computer tower is also up and running in the office.

Round Table:

- Chief Schwartz advises that they will participate with the RCMP in Project Redwater which is targeted at collecting and/or arresting on outstanding warrants.
- Stat days compensation was discussed in regards to providing time off in lieu of stats or paying overtime. An example provided is that one company allows their staff to take 10 paid days of leave each year and stats are staffed like a regular day with no extra compensation. We need further discussion to consider our situation as to how best handle this situation.
- Denis thanked the Chief for his accomplishments this year and for his continued determination in carrying out his duties.

Adjournment:

- With no further comments nor business to discuss David moved to adjourn the meeting and Gerry seconded the motion at 6:15 pm.

Originals signed and dated by:

Gerry Gourlay, minute taker

Chair David Creighton

Date

Date