

Riverdale Municipality Police Board
Regular Meeting
January 3, 2024
Riverdale Municipality Boardroom

Present: Chair – Ian Dyer, Board Members - Matt Klassen, Everett Smith, Chief Lon Schwarz
Guests: Donna Morken, Al Morken, Heather Lamb

Chair Dyer called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Matt Klassen moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Ian Dyer. Budget and Staffing concerns were added to the agenda by Everett Smith. **Carried**

Minutes from Special Meeting dated December 11th, 2023 were presented by Everett Smith. Noting omissions in the minutes of the resignations of the Sergeant and a Reservist Constable, Everett Smith recommended the amendment. Matt Klassen moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Everett Smith. **Carried**

Citizen Presentation:

Chief of Police Report:

-Message from the Chief: Chief Schwarz's Annual Report was presented and touched on the participation of the force in public engagement, updates to improving equipment and procedures, training opportunities and the Chief's appointment as chair to the Program Advisory Council at ACC, collaboration and partnerships with other Law Enforcement bodies, progress on Youth Assistance Strategy and involvement in school programs, and the challenges posed by staffing and the growing online component of modern crime. The Chief also highlighted his recognition of the Medal of Excellence in Law Enforcement from Manitoba Justice, attributing his commendation to his front-line staff. Chief Schwarz also shared praise for community member Warren Smallwood's efforts within Restorative Justice. Chief Schwarz cited challenges with the current animal control by-law arrangement and challenges with enforcement as Riverdale Municipality doesn't even have a ticket book to issue fines out of. The 2023 Strategic Plan outlining its 5 goals and performance indicators closed the report. Ian Dyer moved to accept Chief Schwarz's Annual Report for 2023, seconded by Matt Klassen. **Carried**

-Fleet: Unit 503 is expected for a return to service in January.

-Other: Concerns surrounding the UPG inclusion in the budget presentation were raised as the Police Board has historically had the entirety of levy funds to work with. It was clarified that the purpose of the budget is to present council with Total Expenses and a Net Operating Budget to use in crafting the levy for the by-law. Discussions were had surrounding the posting of the Sergeant's position and how the Chief and Board decide on staffing numbers. Justifications of file load and coverage were given. Discussions were had regarding RCMP cooperation for stand-by and emergency in the face of diminished staffing. Pros and cons of a regionalization effort with Brandon were discussed. Owen Fergusson and Cam Baldwin were mentioned as contacts for investigating the idea of tiered systems. The tentative time frame of Feb 6th-8th was set for meeting with Jack Ewatski with on line and in person both being acceptable options.

-Round Table: Matt Klassen discussed more local public engagement to acknowledge major enforcement and successes. Everett Smith provided an update on council's responsibilities in filling the vacant board position. As council committed by resolution to advertise in the Banner and this has not been done yet, it was decided at the regular council meeting of Jan 2nd, 2024, that the Municipality would post the advertisement in the Banner immediately and fill the position at the meeting of Feb 6th, 2024. There was also discussion surrounding better seizing opportunities for members of the Police Force and Council, along with Municipal employees to come together in fellowship.

Noting no further matters for discussion by Chair Dyer, call for adjournment was requested at 3:00PM. Motion was made by Matt Klassen, seconded by Everett Smith. **Carried**

Originals signed and dated by:

Everett Smith, secretary

Ian Dyer, Chair

Date

Date