

Riverdale Municipality Police Board  
Regular Meeting  
August 18, 2022  
Riverdale Municipal Office Boardroom

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

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

Denis Rondeau moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Gerry Gourlay. Carried.

Kiarra Peters moved to accept minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Denis Rondeau, Carried.

**New Business:**

- Police Vehicles status - Unit 501 is fixed and is up for sale. Also there are two grill guards that do not fit any other vehicle so can be sold as well.
  - Unit 502 (Black truck) has over 200,000 kms and is nearing the end of active service.
  - VEMA - we are planning to acquire a vehicle through the VEMA program. We have no idea of a timetable on the arrival due to factory delays.
- Staffing - Chief is expecting that we will have a full staffing turnover in the next few months. Lots of agencies are recruiting and actively "head-hunting" for quality recruits. We cannot compete with the higher wages other agencies can offer. Our training budget has been frozen.
- MPI program - has been slowed lately while a statement of work was developed. Have been getting officers to ride with other agencies to save fuel costs. Our officers have been patrolling #1 Hwy and have been writing tickets and getting revenue back to our municipality. The public needs to be informed as to why our police vehicles are seen outside our area.
- Mental Health calls - Discussion on billing MB Health for lengthy time spent on escorting and waiting for mental health patients to see a doctor in ER. A few examples were provided by the Chief including one where officers spent 18 hours sitting with a patient. On a positive note however is that MHA incidents are down in numbers significantly.

- Budget update - we are over in fuel/OT (may have MPI funding to apply to offset). Overall numbers appear okay as we show \$298 k spent on a \$470 k budget. We are 75% through the year.
  - Kiarra asked if funding may be available through the Provincial “Building Sustainable Communities” initiative. This fund can be used to build infrastructure and capacity. This may be a good avenue to pursue. Chief Schwartz will follow up.
- Capital Expenses Wish List - Chief stated that ammo to conduct annual firearms qualification. Ammo will be expensive for the foreseeable future as there is a lot of panic buying due to people worried of firearms legislation being introduced nationally.
- CANOE - is a procuring goods and services program. Either we need to use CANOE or go through a full procurement process.
- Mock exercise - plans are underway through CASARA for a plane crash scenario that will occur in our area.
- Letter of complaint - received from two citizens in the Wheatland area complaining about speeding vehicles, disobeying stop signs and reckless driving. Chief Schwartz indicated that police patrols were being conducted in the area and tickets written. The Mayor approached the Chief directing him to reduce the enforcement as too much enforcement is being done. The Chief suggested that the electronic speed sign be placed out in that area but worried about potential for damage to it. Another suggestion was to approach the Highways department to install speed bumps or rumble strips.
- Speed zone request - David asked if there was an update on the speed reduction to 50 kph on Memorial Drive. Kat stated that the portion of the road that is in front of the residential development is up for transfer from the Dept of Highways to the municipality. So nothing will be done on speed until this is resolved.
- Discussion of recent crime - Break and Enter into Golf Course and theft of vehicle from M&M Drilling property. Public concerns have been raised about police response. Discussion that none of the police officers are currently living in our community but likely due to officers believing the job in Rivers is a temporary role for them and don't want to commit to purchasing a home here. Chief Schwartz reports that officers have been working hard and getting some leads in the investigations.
- Community Consultative Group (CCG) meeting - David suggested that Spring may be a good time to consider a CCG-type meeting as it has been a few years since the last one.
- Double solid line - Denis brought up another personal example he had with a vehicle making a left turn on 2nd Ave behind him as he was backing out of the angle parking stall he was occupying. He nearly struck the offending vehicle and had a polite discussion to the driver of this vehicle. Chief said there has been some confusion about the ability to issue tickets for this situation. Suggestion that signs be placed in the area for vehicles not to cross solid line.
- Chief's report - Chief Schwartz relayed info on a training exercise w/RCMP in Rivers last month which involved “active shooter” scenarios.

- Gerry asked about shift schedules and Chief Schwartz outline a typical week in that he works 7am - 3pm, two officers work from 2pm - midnight. Officers are on call from midnight to 7am.
- Annual qualifications (which are mandatory for officers) happening soon.
- Automated criminal records checks through Forest Green Solutions will greatly streamline this usually time-consuming process.
- Planning to work with RCMP to collect warrants. MB Criminal Intelligence Centre (MB Justice) will fund (up to \$75,000) if combatting crime trends. We would require a Joint Force agreement for this initiative.
- Board training - Andrew Minor, Executive Director of the Manitoba Police Commission will be asked to come out to conduct training to our new board member and also to meet with new council that will be in place later this Fall.

**Old Business:**

- There was no old business to discuss.

**Round Table:**

- No one had any further comments nor concerns to bring forward.

**Adjournment:**

- Chair Creighton asked for an adjournment motion and Denis Rondeau made that motion seconded by Gerry Gourlay at 6:31 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for October 13th at 4:30 PM at Riverdale Municipal Office.

Originals signed and dated by:

Gourlay  
 Gerry Gourlay, minute taker  
2022-OCT-06  
 Date

[Signature]  
 Chair David Creighton  
oct 06/22  
 Date