

Riverdale Municipality Police Board
Regular Meeting
June 21, 2023
Riverdale Municipal Office Boardroom

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

Guests: Mayor Heather Lamb and Cal Lamb

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

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

Gerry Gourlay moved to accept minutes of the previous meeting that were distributed electronically, seconded by Denis Rondeau. **Carried**

New Business:

- Review of Budget: Copies of the budget report were distributed and reviewed with a discussion. No concerns with the budget and expenditures to date.
- Staffing Update: Chief Schwartz advises that “holding steady with staff numbers.” There are currently six auxiliary constables assisting our officers.
- Unit 502: Chief reported that the vehicle is missing one part that keeps us from getting it operational. As a result, the department is operating with only one police vehicle.
- VEMA: David advised that VEMA vehicles are strictly loaned on a lease arrangement. The details are that the cost is \$1,100 per month, plus fitting it to police spec is at least \$20,000 then there is a kilometre rate as well. The leases are available for 3 or 4 year terms.
- Springfield vehicle: Chief says in discussion the vehicle deal appears good to go. David explained that we will need to make a resolution from the Police Board to Council then Council make a resolution to allow movement of funds from reserve.
(**Update 2023-Jul-07** - Springfield advised that there has been a delay in obtaining their new vehicle so our deal is on hold)
- Bicycles: The bikes we received from Estevan are free but require some repairs.
Chief was advised that He has authority under equipment repairs budget line to have this work completed.
- MPI program: The agreement is that we will receive \$20,500 for wages for our officers to do traffic enforcement (officers do this in addition to their regular duties and receive overtime at the rate of 1.5 regular hour rate). MPI have also provided a licence plate reader and the electronic speed sign board. Both of these assets are being used all the time and are deemed very beneficial.

- Mental Health Calls: Chief Schwartz reports that calls for service have been greatly reduced lately. It seems that the Covid pandemic was the cause for the spike over the past three years. Hopefully these calls remain to be minimal.
- Expansion opportunity update: David reported the following: Elton and Whitehead councils have declined the invitation to participate. Cornwallis remains very positive and their Mayor is interested in discussing further. Rossburn and Souris have reached out for information on the program initiative.
- 2023 overview: Chief Schwartz presented a very detailed printed report with text, charts and graphs entitled "2023 Mid-Year Report." The report addresses the strategic priorities of: Youth Initiatives, Traffic Safety, Community-based Policing, and Police Officer Development. The report speaks to Tactical Priorities and outlines the short-term steps and actions that are being taken to achieve the goals described in the strategic plan. The report ends with a series of statistical charts and graphs. Very impressive document that is easy to follow. David will place the report in Council reading material for info only.
- Police Board resignations: Written resignations were received from Board Members Kiarra Peters and Kat Bridgeman.
- Police Board recruiting: The Province selects a member to sit on our Board and has asked for our input for candidates. Mayor Lamb has been attending our meetings as a guest and she was asked if she would consider to be our recommended candidate to present to the Provincial Police Commission for our Community Police Board. Other communities have their Mayor as a member of the Police Board so we expect it will not be considered a conflict.
- Public Forum: It has been a few years since we have had a community public forum and it would be a good time to consider another forum. Gerry made the motion, seconded by Denis that the Board organize a public forum for this Fall. **Carried**
- Proposed dates for Andrew Minor visit: Andrew is the Executive Director of the Manitoba Police Commission and has offered to come out for a visit with Council and the Board. Proposed date he provided was July 18 @ 10 AM at council chambers.
- Power Outage: discussion around the need to have back up power for the Police Office as that location could be an EMO Command Post in times of weather or natural disaster emergencies. The Chief and David offered to explore options for generator and other requirements.
- Round Table: Chief Schwartz reported that his unit has received two in-car cameras from Portage RCMP for free. The Chief also added that other items valued at approximately \$82,000 (spike belts, taser, etc) have been received from other policing services at no cost to our unit.
- Chair Creighton noting no further business nor discussion asked for a motion to adjourn. Gerry made that motion at 6:25 PM.

Originals signed and dated by:

Gerry Gourlay, minute taker

Chair David Creighton

Date

Date

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