

## **Police Services Board for the Town of Tecumseh**

### **Minutes**

Date: Thursday, September 8, 2022  
Time: 4:30 pm  
Location: Electronic meeting live streamed at:  
<https://video.isilive.ca/tecumseh/live.html>.

#### **Present:**

Mayor, Gary McNamara  
Deputy Mayor, Joe Bachetti  
Member, Marc Gomes  
Chair, Christopher Hales  
Vice-Chair, Paul Sweet

#### **Also Present:**

OPP Staff Sergeant, Jamie Smith  
Secretary, Margaret Misek-Evans, CAO  
Recording Secretary, Ellen Preuschat

#### **Absent:**

OPP Inspector Angela Ferguson

#### **Others:**

OPP Chief Superintendent Dwight Thib (West Region)  
OPP Superintendent Franka Campisi (West Region)

### **A. Call to Order**

Chair Christopher Hales called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. He acknowledged the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II earlier today and stated "God Save the King."

### **B. Roll Call**

Chair Hales introduced Chief Superintendent Dwight Thib and Superintendent Franka Campisi of OPP West Region. Mayor Gary McNamara welcomed them on behalf of Town Council, noting Tecumseh's longstanding relationship with the OPP.

Essex County OPP Detachment Commander Angela Ferguson was unable to attend due to a conflict with another municipal board meeting.

### **C. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

There was no pecuniary interest declared by a member of the Board.

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion: PSB - 24/22**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

Seconded by Member Marc Gomes

**That** the Agenda for the Police Services Board Meeting, dated Thursday, September 8, 2022, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be accepted.**

Carried

**E. Approval of the Previous Minutes**

**1. Police Services Board Regular Meeting - June 9, 2022**

**Motion: PSB - 24/22**

Moved by Mayor Gary McNamara

Seconded by Vice-Chair Paul Sweet

**That** the Regular Minutes of the June 9, 2022 Police Services Board Meeting, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be adopted.**

Carried

**F. Committee Minutes**

**1. Policy Committee Meeting - June 24, 2022**

**Motion: PSB - 25/22**

Moved by Vice-Chair Paul Sweet

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

**That** the Minutes of the June 24, 2022 Police Services Board Policy Committee Meeting, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be adopted.**

Carried

**G. Delegations**

**1. PC Sarah Werstein, Essex County OPP**

Re: Crime Stoppers Windsor-Essex County

Mayor McNamara inquired if there is a link to Crime Stoppers on the Town's website. The IT department will follow up and add one if it is not already included.

**Motion: PSB - 26/22**

Moved by Member Marc Gomes

Seconded by Mayor Gary McNamara

**That** the presentation by Essex County OPP Constable Sarah Werstein regarding Crime Stoppers Windsor-Essex County **be received**.

Carried

**H. OPP Monthly Report**

- 1. OPP Police Services Board Monthly Overview - May to July 2022**
- 2. OPP Report to Tecumseh PSB - May to July 2022**

Staff Sgt. Jamie Smith provided a summary of the OPP Report for the months of May to July 2022. He noted there have been targeted traffic patrols on CR 22, Brighton Road, Riverside Drive and other areas, with an average of 19 traffic stops per day in July.

Member Marc Gomes inquired what number of the impaired driving charges are for Tecumseh residents or drivers passing through the municipality. Staff Sgt. Jamie Smith will follow up on this inquiry.

Mayor McNamara noted that the increase in traffic stops and visibility of the OPP in the streets has been noted by residents. He requested continued attention to CR 22, particularly on Friday night and Saturday when vehicles appear to be racing.

The value of bike patrols was discussed. Chair Hales observed that the question of whether auxiliary officers could assist with these patrols has not yet been resolved, and this would be good to know for next summer in the parks.

The Chair invited Chief Superintendent Thib to address the board. CS Thib provided some background on his career and reviewed policing trends in the region - violent crime has been decreasing while MVCs and related fatalities have been increasing. He stated that his focus is currently on filling vacancies, including key leadership vacancies, as well as all constable level vacancies. He noted that for the first time in the history of the OPP, experienced officers are being recruited from across the country and from other agencies. The goal is an intake of 135 recruits, three times per year.

CAO Margaret Misk-Evans inquired if the Chief Superintendent could provide any insight into when the new *Community Safety and Policing Act* will be implemented. CS Thib stated he has no new information to share but will follow up. He also suggested the board reach out to the Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB).

Superintendent Campisi thanked Staff Sgt. Smith for a well done report. She is pleased to see an increase in foot patrols in the area. Supt. Campisi noted that monthly meetings are carried out with detachment command staff, and she hopes to stop by Town Hall next time she is in the area.

**Motion: PSB - 27/22**

Moved by Mayor Gary McNamara  
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Joe Bachetti

**That** the OPP Report for the months of May, June and July 2022, **be received.**

Carried

**I. Reports**

**1. PC Blake Cohoe, Essex County OPP**

Re: Grant Update - OPP Mental Health Teams

PC Cohoe provided an overview of his report on the grants supporting the OPP's mental health response teams and noted that the Town can expect to receive a refund of \$75,471 for officers' wages next year.

Mayor McNamara commended the OPP and Constable Cohoe for their leadership in developing the mental health response teams.

CAO Misek-Evans inquired if, given the successful results of this program, the teams will become part of the permanent structure of the OPP's service. This would be beneficial since reporting and administering these grants requires considerable resources on an ongoing basis. CS Thib agreed that the process could be streamlined and will follow up with the Commissioner on moving towards a permanent operational model.

Chair Hales inquired about the City of Windsor's mental health response teams and whether there is liaison with them. Constable Cohoe confirmed that considerable communication takes place with all the teams in the region for a coordinated response to issues.

Deputy Mayor Bachetti left the meeting at 5:32 pm due to municipal business.

**Motion: PSB - 27/22**

Moved by Member Marc Gomes

Seconded by Vice-Chair Paul Sweet

**That** the report by PC Blake Cohoe on Essex County OPP Mental Health Teams - Grant Update **be received**.

Carried

**J. Communications - Action Required**

There were no Communications - Action Required presented to the board.

**K. Communications - For Information Purposes**

There were no Communications - For Information Purposes presented to the board.

**L. Old Business**

**1. Status of Provincial Appointments**

Chair Hales reported that the most recent extensions to the provincial appointments for Vice Chair Sweet and Member Gomes expire on October 10. Therefore, this may be the final meeting for these members, and there may be only three board members available for the October 13 board meeting. It is uncertain at this time whether a further extension will be forthcoming from the province. Mayor McNamara suggested that correspondence be sent to the Appointments Secretariat and copied to our MPP. The CAO advised that the Ministry advised the board today of a new Zone advisor and her office will reach out in this regard.

**M. New Business**

**1. Community Safety and Well-Being Walks**

Re: Draft CPTED Pamphlet

Staff Sgt. Smith reported that Community Safety and Well-Being walks are being conducted in Windsor and some county municipalities, with additional walks planned for next year. CAO Misek-Evans confirmed that Tecumseh and Lakeshore will be considered for walks this year if a spot opens up and a formal request has been submitted for next year. This could assist with property damage occurring in Optimist Park. When the CPTED brochure is finalized, the Town will assist in promoting it to businesses and residents in support of public safety.

**Motion: PSB - 28/22**

Moved by Mayor Gary McNamara  
Seconded by Vice-Chair Paul Sweet

**That** the draft informational brochure on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) in support of the Community Safety & Well-Being Plan as presented by the Essex County OPP **be received**.

Carried

**2. Traffic Enforcement and Mitigation Measures**

Staff Sgt. Smith reported that the OPP continues to work in partnership with the Town to address traffic issues as they arise. He would like to continue expanding the team that addresses traffic concerns locally. Mayor McNamara added that it is unfortunate not all residents observe road closure signage as posted.

**3. 2023 Police and Police Services Board Budget**

CAO Marg Misek-Evans reported that the Town's 2023 budget planning has commenced, and a draft Police and Police Services Board budget will be presented at the next board meeting in October. In the absence of provincial regulations on the formation of detachment boards, a 'status quo' budget for the board will be drafted. She inquired if a Community Safety Officer will be reinstated, as the board does set aside funds in support of this position. Supt. Campisi will follow up and report back. CS Thib added that, in areas where school boards have declined to have police officers in schools, those detachments are looking for other ways to engage with youth.

The CAO also noted that, because it is an election year, board appointments may not be in place in time for the budget presentation to Council and she will therefore do the presentation.

**4. 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Re: Cancellation of Meeting - December 8, 2022

**Motion: PSB - 29/22**

Moved by Vice-Chair Paul Sweet  
Seconded by Mayor Gary McNamara

**Whereas** a municipal election will take place on October 24, 2022; and

**Whereas** appointment of municipal members to the Tecumseh Police Services Board is scheduled to take place on December 13, 2022;

**Therefore be it resolved that** the December 8, 2022 meeting of the Tecumseh Police Services Board **be cancelled**.

Carried

**N. Next Meeting**

Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 4:30 pm

**O. Adjournment**

**Motion: PSB - 30/22**

Moved by Mayor Gary McNamara  
Seconded by Member Marc Gomes

**That** there being no further business to discuss, the Thursday, September 8, 2022 meeting of the Tecumseh Police Services Board **adjourn** at 6:02 pm.

Carried

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Christopher Hales, Chair

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Margaret Misek-Evans, Secretary