



PRIDE SERVICE TRUST

Guelph Police Services Board

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Open Meeting

Minutes – March 16, 2023

An Open meeting of the Guelph Police Services Board was held by teleconference call on March 16, 2023, pursuant to sections 11.4 and 20.7 of Guelph Police Services Board By-Law 136 (2009), commencing at 2:30 p.m.

Present: P. McSherry, Chair
J. Armstrong, Vice-Chair
C. Guthrie, Member
P. Allt, Member
L. LaCelle, Executive Assistant
G. Cobey, Chief of Police
D. Goetz, Deputy Chief of Police
J. Sidlofsky Stoffman, Legal Counsel
J. Allsop, Executive Assistant

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.0 Meeting Called to Order and Territorial Acknowledgment

Chair McSherry called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. by teleconference call between the attendees and gave Territorial Acknowledgement.

3.0 Declaration of Conflict or Pecuniary Interest – None

4.0 Closed Session Resolutions

Moved by J. Armstrong

Seconded by C. Guthrie

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board support the KICKZ Soccer Program in the amount of \$1,600.00 with funds to be paid from the Community Account.

- CARRIED -

Moved by J. Armstrong

Seconded by C. Guthrie

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board support the Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition in the amount of \$3,500.00 with funds to be paid from the Community Account.

- CARRIED -

5.0 Presentations/Delegations – None

6.0 Approval of Minutes of the Open Meeting, February 16, 2023

Moved by P. Allt

Seconded by C. Guthrie

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve the Open Meeting minutes of February 16, 2023.

- CARRIED -

7.0 Approval of Agenda

Moved by P. Allt

Seconded by J. Armstrong

THAT the Guelph Police Services Board approve the Open Meeting agenda.

- CARRIED -

Part 1 – Consent Agenda

Moved by P. Allt

Seconded by J. Armstrong

THAT the Consent Agenda items be approved.

- CARRIED -

7.1 Board Correspondence Report

THAT the report titled "Board Correspondence Report – Open Meeting," and dated March 16, 2023, be received for information.

7.2 2022 Access to Information Report

THAT the report titled "2022 Access to Information Report," and dated March 7, 2023, be received for information.

7.3 2022 Major Case Management Annual Report

THAT the reported titled "ViCLAS/Major Case Management – 2022 Annual Reporting," and dated March 7, 2023, be received for information.

7.4 2022 Missing Persons Annual Report

THAT the report titled "Missing Persons Act, 2018 – Annual Report (2022)," and dated March 7, 2023, be received for information.

7.5 Open Disclosure List (Sunshine List) 2022 Report

THAT the report titled "Public Sector Salary Disclosure for 2022," and dated March 16, 2023, be received for information.

7.6 Member Appointments

THAT Bradley Daw be appointed as a part-time member of this Service, effective February 21, 2023.

Part 2 – Discussion Agenda

7.7 Chief's Monthly Report

- Chief Cobey mentioned that this week marked 10 years since Cst. Jennifer Kovach made the ultimate sacrifice for her community. Everyone's thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and all who knew her. It is important to remember and honour her service and her sacrifice, she will always be a hero in life.
- Recent months have served to highlight the important and difficult work that all police officers do. Tragically, we are learning today of two members of the Edmonton Police Service who have been killed in the line of duty. The Guelph Police Services offers its deepest condolences to all those impacted by this tragedy.
- On behalf of the Senior Leadership Team, and echoed by all police leaders, the Chief thanked and recognized Guelph Police Service members and all police officers for the work they do to support our citizens. Everyday, members of the Service, and police officers throughout Canada, come to work to serve and protect their communities. They do this despite the challenges, tragedies, and resource constraints they face. It is important to always be mindful of their service and the sacrifices that they and their families make to support their communities.
- It is important not to lose sight of the contributions police officers make to their communities in the face of the many challenges presented.

Chair McSherry asked everyone to observe a moment of silence in recognition of Cst. Travis Jordan and Cst. Brett Ryan of the Edmonton Police Service who lost their lives in the line of duty earlier today.

7.8 Meeting Format Moving Forward

The Board discussed the possibility of returning to in person meetings in the future. Due to supply chain issues, hybrid technology has not been completed as of yet for the Emergency Operations Training Centre where the meetings will be held. Staff do expect the equipment to arrive and be installed in the coming months.

The City of Guelph has been contacted regarding availability of meeting rooms at City Hall. A response has not yet been received.

Chair McSherry mentioned that there is another aspect pertaining to the meetings particularly that historically, Committee meetings have been done without public participation. As there is an interest in providing greater transparency, it is important to look at this carefully as there are statutory obligations for many things to be kept confidential. Chair McSherry asked J. Sidlofsky-Stoffman, Legal Counsel, to provide advice pertaining to what matters can be conducted in public and what matters could not. J. Sidlofsky-Stoffman will report back to the Board at a later meeting.

7.9 Bail Reform

Moved by J. Armstrong
Seconded by C. Guthrie

Whereas the recent tragic police fatalities in Ontario, including that of OPP Constable Grzegorz Pierzchala, have once again underscored the need for meaningful legislative reform to Canada's bail system.

Whereas the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides for the right to reasonable bail and the fundamental importance of reasonable bail to the presumption of innocence.

Whereas the right for the public and sworn officers to be protected from the criminal behaviours of violent and repeat offenders, particularly those charged with firearm-related crimes, should be given greater weight when bail and sentencing matters are considered.

Whereas persons with firearms convictions who are charged with further firearms offences, should not be granted pre-trial release.

Whereas persons charged with crimes of violence, including firearms offences, should not be considered for house arrest and/or GPS monitoring.

Whereas persons who at trial or through a guilty plea are found guilty of a violent offence that will result in a custodial sentence should not be released on house arrest and/or GPS monitoring while awaiting sentencing.

Whereas persons who have consistently demonstrated their inability, or their lack of intent, to comply with Court orders should not continue to be released on additional Court orders.

Whereas reverse onus places the onus on a chronic violent offender who is facing a bail refusal application to show cause why they should be given judicial interim release.

Whereas a reverse onus bail provision preserves an accused's right to reasonable bail in appropriate circumstances and recognizes the importance of the necessity of detention where there are concerns for public safety.

Whereas the Federal Government is primarily responsible for legislation governing the criminal justice system and the Provincial Government is primarily responsible for policies, directives, and guidelines for the prosecution of criminal offences.

Whereas we recognize that bail reform does not replace the critical need for crime prevention and addressing the root causes of crime.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Guelph Police Services Board calls on the Provincial and Federal governments to collaborate to enact sector wide reform to Canada's bail system, including broadening the application of the reverse onus protocol and ensuring that provincial bail policies and directives integrate these new proposed legislative changes.

- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY -

7.10 Establishment of a Board Nominating Committee

Moved by P. Allt

Seconded by J. Armstrong

THAT an ad hoc Nominating Committee be established, consisting of the Chair, C. Guthrie, and P. Allt

- CARRIED -

7.11 New Business – None

8.0 Information Items

- Next Open Meeting: Thursday, April 20, 2023, 2:30 p.m., via Teams meeting, livestreamed on YouTube.

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by J. Armstrong

Seconded by P. Allt

THAT the Open meeting of the Guelph Police Services Board rise and recess at 2:54 p.m.

- CARRIED -

"Peter McSherry"

P. McSherry, Vice-Chair

"Leslie LaCelle"

L. LaCelle, Executive Assistant