



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
January 29th, 2014
4:00 p.m. – Lethbridge Council Chambers**

In Attendance

**Sandy McKay, Vice Chair
Councillor Sherrie Duda**

**Councillor Liz Iwaskiw
Peter Deys**

D. Jean Valgardson

Marion Wiebe

Adam Zanoni

Monica Elder (Recording Secretary)

Chief McKenzie

Deputy Chief Catonio

Inspector Ascroft

Inspector Kaye

A/Inspector Dobirstein

Kristen Harding

Dan Paskuski

Brenda Kenward

Regrets

Inspector Cove

Councillor Ryan Parker

Lee Cutforth

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Sandy McKay at 4:05 p.m.
- 2) Introduction of New Commission Members
 - New members Jean Valgardson and Peter Deys were introduced and welcomed to the Police Commission.
- 3) Presentation to Retiring Commission Members
 - Alex Hann and Tom Wickersham were presented with gifts and thanked for their years of service.
- 4) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Mr. Zanoni, Seconded by Mr. Deys that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried.**
- 5) Enquiries by the Public
 - Mr. Merv Hudemka inquired about the November Police Commission minutes. Chief McKenzie replied the minutes are posted on the City's website after they are approved by the Police

Commission. Therefore, the November minutes will be posted when they are approved. There was no meeting in December.

- 6) Minutes of the November 27th, 2013 Open Meeting
 - a) Approval of Minutes
 - **Motion by Mrs. Valgardson, Seconded by Councillor Duda that the minutes be approved as circulated....Carried.**

- 7) Business Arising
 - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Kaye
 - Wrapped up a dial-a-dope on January 9th which resulted in 25 drug related charges against 8 individuals.
 - Joint Management Team working on a budget. Board will meet on February 4th.

 - b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
 - Budget issues were identified in November but have since been resolved.
 - Plans are on display at headquarters for staff to review. The architects will be in attendance on Thursday evening to answer questions staff and Commission members may have.
 - Target is still to begin construction in April of this year, starting with the parkade and foundation.

- 8) New Business
 - a) Election of Chair & Vice Chair
 - Mr. McKay asked for nominations for Chair. **Nomination by Councillor Iwaskiw, Seconded by Mr. Deys for Mr. McKay as Chair.** As there were no other nominations, Mr. McKay was acclaimed Chair.
 - **Nomination by Mrs. Wiebe, Seconded by Mrs. Valgardson for Mr. Zanoni for Vice-Chair.** As there were no other nominations, Mr. Zanoni was acclaimed as Vice-Chair.

 - b) SCAN Presentation – Craig Cuthbert
 - Presented by Craig Cuthbert of ALERT. Mike Letourneau was also in attendance.
 - SCAN was Private Members Bill passed in fall of 2007 and proclaimed October 1st, 2008 – based on other provincial/territorial legislation in Canada.
 - Key points
 - Civil approach rather than criminal approach
 - Targets property, not individuals.
 - Holds property owners accountable for activities on their property
 - Focuses on how neighborhood is affected by illegal activities
 - Improves community safety
 - Empowers citizens; complaint driven process.

- Specified Use Activities
 - Producing, selling or using illegal drugs
 - Solvent abuse
 - Unlawful sale and/or consumption of alcohol
 - Prostitution
 - Child sexual abuse
 - Gang & criminal organization activity.
 - The illegal activity must be habitual.
 - Legislation focuses on how the specified activity affects the health, safety or security of one or more persons in a neighborhood and/or interferes with the peaceful enjoyment of one or more properties in a community or neighborhood.
 - Complainant is confidential
 - Informal resolution is preferred method – meet with property owner, send warning letter to owner or occupant. Landlords are empowered to rent their properties to community-friendly, law-abiding tenants.
 - Formal resolution – Community Safety Order is obtained from Court of Queen’s Bench. CSO may:
 - Require all persons to vacate property immediately and while property is closed no one can enter
 - Terminate the tenancy agreement or lease of tenants
 - Close the property for up to 90 days
 - Require the respondent to prevent the specified activities from reoccurring
 - Require the respondent to take any other necessary provisions.
 - Removing tenants is a last resort. Efforts will be made to take care of occupants, particularly children and the elderly. Other agencies will be enlisted to assist.
 - SCAN Unit includes Sheriffs Investigative Services, ALERT, 2 teams – one North and one South. Teams consist of 7 investigators, 1 Analyst and Manager.
 - Presently have 5 active investigations in Lethbridge and area. Concluded 7 files in 2013, mostly by evictions. One Community Safety Order that Queens Bench has directed be seized.
 - Two ways to file a complaint:
 - 1-866-960-SCAN (7226)
 - www.scan.alberta.ca
 - Mr. Cuthbert answered questions.
 - Mr. McKay thanked Mr. Cuthbert for his presentation.
- c) AAPG Membership Dues – Sandy McKay
- An invoice has been received for 2014 AAPG Membership dues.
 - **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw, Seconded by Mr. Zanoni to approve the payment of AAPG 2014 membership dues in the amount of \$500.....Carried.**

- d) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
- Total calls for service in December are up slightly from 2012. Calls for service for 2013 have decreased from 2012.
 - Top 5 Calls for Service – 324 disturbances, mostly quality of life calls.
 - Councillor Iwaskiw inquired about discrepancies in collision figures. Inspector Ascroft will confirm and reply.
- e) Financial Report – Chief McKenzie
- The reporting period November 1 to November 30 reflects a monthly deficit of \$6,000 with Revenue accounts experiencing a deficit of \$37,000.
 - Wage accounts generated a deficit of \$5,100 and other Operating Expenses a surplus of \$36,200.
 - Year to date surplus is \$336,200.
- f) 2012-2014 Business Plan Update – Chief McKenzie
- July to December 2013 Results and January to July 2014 Goals were distributed.
 - Highlights included:
 - Solve rates continue to be above provincial and national average
 - Strong public support for Police Service – on-line & community surveys
 - Town Hall meeting – were able to engage a number of citizens and partner agencies
 - Hired 10 members
 - Implementation of Deputy Chief position, realignment of divisions
 - Successful completion of CRC pilot project and 10-year extension
 - Introduction of Power DMS as an internal communication/training tool
 - Civilianization of some positions to move police back to policing duties
 - Implementation of Crisis Intervention Team to better address individuals with mental illness
 - Mental Health training provided service-wide to both sworn and non-sworn
 - Advancement of building expansion project
 - Implementation of Twitter to enhance communications.
- g) CACOLE Conference – Information Only
- Conference to be held in Victoria May 5th, 6th and 7th, deals with civilian oversight.
- 9) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- None

- 10) Enquiries by the Public
 - None
- 11) Meeting Adjournment
 - **Motion by Mr. Deys that the meeting be adjourned at 5:10.**