



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

In Attendance

Sandy McKay, Chair	Chief McKenzie
Adam Zanoni, Vice-Chair	Deputy Chief Catonio
Councillor Duda	Inspector Ascroft
Councillor Iwaskiw	Inspector Dobirstein
Councillor Parker	Patrick Balfour
Lee Cutforth	Kristen Harding
Peter Deys	Dan Paskuski
D. Jean Valgardson	Monica Elder (Recording Secretary)
Marion Wiebe	

Regrets

Inspector Anderson

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chair, Sandy McKay.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Mr. Cutforth, Seconded by Councillor Iwaskiw that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried.**
- 3) Enquiries by the Public
 - None
- 4) Minutes of the September 24th, 2014 Open Meeting
 - a) Approval of Minutes
 - **Motion by Mrs. Wiebe, Seconded by Mr. Deys that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried.**
- 5) Business Arising
 - a) ALERT Update – Deputy Chief Catonio
 - CFSEU executed a search warrant in October and seized 52 marijuana plants and equipment.
 - Councillor Iwaskiw was provided info from Grande Prairie in regards to their Report a Drug House Program and asked do

we use SCAN, how much do we rely on it and does Commission need to lobby for funding.

- Inspector Ascroft advised we use SCAN and have a great relationship with them – they come when we need them.

- b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
 - Courthouse renovations on track, movers booked for 8th and 9th for Records Management.
 - Tender package 3 approved which includes renovations to the interior of the building, including the basement.
 - Pilings for parking structure almost complete – will start to see steel within next month.
 - Have been able to secure offsite parking over the Christmas season.

- c) Search for Chief – Sandy McKay
 - Mr. McKay advised, pursuant to bylaws, are required to bring motions that are approved by email to be reapproved by the Commission.
 - **Motion by Mr. McKay and Seconded by Mr. Cutforth to authorize the City of Lethbridge to enter into a contract with Robert Davis to be the New Chief of PoliceCarried.**
 - **Motion by Mr. McKay and Seconded by Councillor Iwaskiw to authorize the City of Lethbridge to enter into a contract with Colin Catonio to be the interim Chief of Police from November 1, 2014 through to January 4th, 2015.....Carried.**

- 6) New Business
 - a) SCAN Funding – Councillor Iwaskiw
 - Dealt with under 5(a) ALERT Update

 - b) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
 - Calls for service up almost 1600 over the same period last year. Bulk of those calls look like they occurred in April and June. Thefts were up and did have a lot of thefts from vehicles that month – were able to resolve a lot of those.
 - Collisions up over 25 from last year.
 - Fatal collisions – had 2 events involving vehicles and death. Neither one met the reporting criteria for Alberta Transportation.
 - Average number of personnel on the street is up from last year. City is growing and we staffed accordingly
 - STEP initiatives were not listed on report – will have for next month.

 - c) Financial Report – Chief McKenzie
 - As this is Dan Paskuski's last Commission meeting, he will deliver the report. Chief McKenzie thanked Mr. Paskuski for his support.

- The reporting period September 1 to September 30, 2014 reflects a monthly surplus of \$59,600. Revenue accounts experienced a surplus of \$51,600, Wage accounts a deficit of \$24,400 and Other Operating Expenses a surplus of \$32,400.
 - The quarterly report July 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014 reflects an overall surplus of \$82,000 with Revenue accounts generating a surplus of \$61,000, Wage accounts a deficit of \$87,600 and Other Operating Expenses a surplus of \$108,600.
- 7) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- Councillor Parker – has been hearing from citizens in regards to the increase in crime in the downtown. What are the police doing?
 - Chief McKenzie advised the Downtown Policing Unit was developed several years ago. They have taken on a larger role in crisis intervention team work – have partnered with housing partners, mental health and focused on that. Have been able to shut down a problem home which was condemned and is now bulldozed. Some issues are perceptions people have.
 - Inspector Ascroft pointed out calls for service in the downtown are not significantly up. Most complaints have been addressed and charges laid. A lot are social issues. MUST van has been re-tasked downtown to move some of the people along. Continue to work on a sobering site – hoping Alberta Health will fund.
 - Councillor Parker also asked about the possibility of surveillance systems in downtown.
 - Chief McKenzie advised there are a lot of CCTV cameras in businesses – most business operate some sort of surveillance equipment. Cameras come with a big price tag. LRPS program is for everyone with a CCTV camera to register with us – police can go to the business and ask if they have footage if a crime occurs in that area. Best idea is to maintain the Downtown Policing Unit to keep a presence on the street and work with partners.
- 8) Enquiries by the Public
- None
- 9) Meeting Adjournment
- This is Chief McKenzie's last meeting. Mr. McKay thanked the Chief for his service.
 - **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 p.m.Carried.**