



## LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION

**OPEN LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, March 30, 2016  
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers  
4:00 p.m.**

### In Attendance

Lee Cutforth, Chair  
Peter Deys, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Bridget Mearns  
Victoria Chester  
Simon Griffiths  
Shilpa Stocker  
Marion Wiebe  
Carmen Hellawell (Recording Secretary)

Chief Robert Davis  
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio  
Inspector Bill Anderson  
Inspector Tom Ascroft  
Inspector Jason Dobirstein  
Kristen Harding  
Brenda Kenward

### Regrets

Councillor Joe Mauro  
D. Jean Valgardson

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
  - The meeting was called to order by Chair Cutforth at 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
  - **Motion by Victoria Chester, Seconded by Peter Deys that the agenda be approved as circulated....Carried**
- 3) Presentation – Membership in Cpl. Cummings Watch
  - Constable Bernatchez and Constable Enkirch were presented with membership in Cpl. Cummings Watch for their efforts in curbing impaired driving in the province of Alberta.
- 4) Enquiries by the Public
  - None
- 5) Approval of Minutes of February 24, 2016 Open Meeting
  - **Motion by Marion Wiebe, Seconded by Victoria Chester that the minutes be approved as circulated....Carried**

- 6) Business Arising
  - a) Letter from Minister Ganley re: ALERT Funding – Chair Cutforth
    - o Letter of reply from Minister Ganley provided in agenda package for information.
  
- 7) Standing Items
  - a) ALERT Update – Deputy Chief Catonio
    - o Presented March monthly report for Lethbridge Region ALERT.
    - o CFSEU continues to target drug dealers in our community.
    - o Joint investigation completed in relation to property offences, executed four search warrants. Approximately \$105,000 in stolen property recovered along with cash and proceeds of crime.
  
  - b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
    - o Minor work being completed to allow for occupancy of basement, Forensic and Administration areas of new addition.
    - o Construction continues in detention areas.
    - o Demolition of south-west portion of building complete, awaiting renovation.
    - o Construction of new Forensic Ident bays underway.
    - o Siding being installed in various parts of new structure.
    - o Further lot paving will occur in April, weather dependent.
  
  - c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
    - o Calls for Service for February distributed in agenda package and Inspector Ascroft provided highlights from the report.
      - Overall calls for service are up over 200 calls over same period last year.
      - Most were thefts from motor vehicles.
      - Step Initiative – Distracting Driving.
      - Question from Commission about increase in Photo Radar. Inspector Ascroft explained that photo radar numbers were significantly down last year due to faulty equipment, numbers are now where they should be.
      - Question from Commission about what encompasses thefts. Inspector Ascroft explained all thefts other than thefts of motor vehicles. Increase in occurrences due to warmer weather.
  
  - d) Financial Report – Brenda Kenward
    - o Financial report was distributed in agenda package and are the final numbers for 2015. Reflects an overall surplus of \$255,166 with Revenue accounts generating a surplus of \$200,964, Wage accounts a surplus of \$445,503, Other Operating Expenses a deficit of \$357,476 and interdepartmentals a deficit of \$40,030.
    - o 2015 surplus will be rolled over to 2016 to cover the 2016 budget deficit.
    - o Question from Commission regarding the amount allocated to Other Operating Expenses. Brenda Kenward explained it includes carryover requests and capital for life-cycling.

- Question from Commission why LPS pays for security services. Brenda Kenward explained cost is for Commissionaires at front counter and cell area.
- e) Monthly Compliments – Chief Davis
  - February Compliments: 2 Citizen/External, 3 Community Partners
- 8) New Business
  - a) 2015 Fail to Stop Annual Report – Inspector Ascroft
    - Culture in policing has changed over the past several decades and pursuits are now generally initiated in response to serious criminal offences.
    - Every pursuit is the subject of review to ensure policy was adhered to.
    - Fail to Stop incidents are tracked, but this actually tracks what didn't happen in most incidents.
    - Pursuit occurs when a member attempts to stop a vehicle; driver is aware but refuses to obey; member overtly follows vehicle.
    - In 2015, there were 29 Fail to Stop incidents, six were deemed pursuits.
    - Three of six pursuits included a policy breach, dealt with by counselling.
    - Chair Cutforth thanked Inspector Ascroft for his presentation.
  - b) 2016 Strategic Goals – Chief Davis
    - Transitioning to new format as previous document was thick and word heavy.
    - Chief Davis explained the take away from CALEA was to keep the goals limited and focus on those. Executive reviewed 2015-18 LPS Business Plan to identify goals as some would be a natural occurrence from the business plan.
    - *(Shilpa Stocker arrived at 4:20 p.m.)*
    - Goals have been placed into categories from the five strategic priorities.
    - Metrics page will be available in future which will give Executive more information to work from going forward.
    - Commission members liked new format but wondered if enough information is provided. Chief advised there will be with inclusion of the metrics page.
    - New Commission members requested acronyms be spelled out until they have more understanding of the meanings.
  - c) Media Update – Chief Davis
    - Chief Davis shared positive media coverage received regarding 870 shot gun transition to less lethal projectile weapon. Chief mentioned that Executive Officer Kristen Harding was instrumental in assisting with this coverage.
    - Kristen Harding explained a representative from Canadian Press contacted her after seeing the article in Blue Line Magazine. Chief Davis and Sergeant Olsen were interviewed with respect to the LPS shot gun conversion. Both a video and written story was created and coverage received as a result has been wide-spread and very positive.
- 9) Enquiries by the Police Commission
  - None

10) Enquiries by the Public

- Inspector Ascroft followed up on three questions from the previous meeting:
  - Fog lights – Can be on as long as the lamps are authorized by the Vehicle Equipment Regulations and they are to manufacturer (SAE) specification.
  - Pedestrian safety – Step focus for the entire month of November which has the highest number of pedestrian casualty collisions.
  - Median on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Stafford Drive South – Work was being done on a water main break.

11) Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.