



## LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION

### OPEN LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 28, 2016  
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers  
4:00 p.m.

#### In Attendance

**Lee Cutforth, Chair**

**Peter Deys, Vice-Chair**

**Councillor Bridget Mearns**

**Victoria Chester**

**Shilpa Stocker**

**D. Jean Valgardson**

**Marion Wiebe**

**Carmen Hellowell (Recording Secretary)**

**Chief Robert Davis**

**Inspector Bill Anderson**

**Inspector Tom Ascroft**

**Kristen Harding**

**Brenda Kenward**

#### Regrets

**Councillor Joe Mauro**

**Simon Griffiths**

**Inspector Jason Dobirstein**

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
  - The meeting was called to order by Chair Cutforth at 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Presentation –Senior Officer Commissioning
  - Chair Cutforth presented Chief Davis with his Senior Officer Commissioning
- 3) Presentation – Chief’s Commendations – presented by Chief Davis
  - Angela Cornforth – For assisting police in their apprehension of an escaped prison inmate
  - Can-Am Police-Fire Games held July 16 – 24, 2016
    - Constable Jon Brunning - Represented the Lethbridge Police Service at the Games Gold medalist in the Toughest Competitor Alive Competition – under 200 lbs. age 30 – 34 category
    - Constable Tim Kreft - Gold medalist in the Toughest Competitor Alive Competition – over 200 lbs. under age 30 category
    - Constable Don Realini - Gold medalist in the Police Action Pistol and a Silver medalist in the Police Pistol Combat (PPC) Duty Pistol Match

- Nevada Police & Fire Games held July 25 – 30, 2016
  - Sergeant Rich Kurina - Gold medalist in the PPC 1500 and Bronze medalist in the PPC Duty/Combat. Bronze medalist for the Two Officer Team event in the PPC Duty/Combat. Sgt. Kurina's partner was an officer from the Phoenix Police Department.

Chief Davis advised that both Sgt. Kurina and Cst. Realini recently produced the Carbine Operator's Manual for the Blood Tribe Police Service.

- 4) Approval of Agenda
  - **Motion by Councillor Mearns, Seconded by Peter Deys that the agenda be approved as circulated....Carried**
  
- 5) Approval of Minutes of June 29, 2016 Open Meeting
  - **Motion by Jean Valgardson, Seconded by Marion Wiebe that the minutes be approved as circulated....Carried**
  
- 6) Business Arising
  - a) Action Items:
    - i. Chief Davis to discuss with the AACP president whether collecting letters of support from Alberta City Councils for PowerCase is requested.
      - No need at this time. Chief Davis had recent meeting with Minister Ganley. Will advise Commission if this changes.
  
    - ii. Chair Cutforth to discuss with Chief Davis how to proceed with the formal request to have the potential legalization of marihuana discussion form part of a future Community Issues Committee (CIC) Meeting.
      - Chief Davis and Inspector Dobirstein presented at the September 12 City Council Community Issues Committee Meeting.
  
    - iii. Lethbridge Police Commission write a letter of support for the amendment of the City of Lethbridge Bylaw 5658 as presented at the June 29 Meeting. (info only)
      - Letter of support in package for information purposes.
  
- 7) Standing Items
  - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
    - Presented July - September report for Lethbridge Region ALERT, including the following highlights:
    - Provided support to the Lethbridge Police Service Violent Crimes Unit in respect to an active homicide investigation
    - Conducted search warrants in Lethbridge and seized cocaine and methamphetamine with a combined street value of approx. \$14,000
    - Officer in an undercover capacity purchased law enforcement body armour from a Lethbridge resident

- Continue to assist the Lethbridge Police Service in various capacities in respect to criminal investigations
  - ICE Unit - lengthy investigation that started in March of 2016 was concluded in August with the arrest of a Calgary man
- b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
- Staff lot paving complete, awaiting application of sealer to the parking structure
  - Will have occupancy of new detention area shortly, then to start demolition of existing detention area
  - Renovations to basement area nearing completion
  - Renovations to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor former admin area and incident command underway
  - Landscaping began last week
  - Lobby area now essentially complete
  - Rear entry, equipment and patrol briefing rooms have all been turned over
- c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
- Calls for Service for June, July and August distributed in agenda package and Inspector Ascroft provided highlights from the report.
    - Thefts are up 30% each month
    - Staffing is down
    - STEP initiatives
      - June - Commercial/Passenger Vehicle Safety – ticket # unavailable
      - July – Motorcycle Safety – 4 violation tickets
      - Impaired Driving – count not available at time of meeting
  - Questions from Commission
    - Confirmation that the drop in personnel per shift in June would attribute to the decrease in the number of conventional tickets. Traffic Unit generates higher ticket volumes and one member had been transferred from traffic to patrols
    - Inspector Ascroft will research the number of calls per population and report at the next meeting.
    - ISD related infractions fluctuate due to weather
    - Chief Davis advised the LPS Administrative Analyst will attend the October meeting to further discuss with Commission how they would like calls for service information reported
- d) Financial Report – Brenda Kenward
- Financial report was circulated to Commission Members and reviewed.
  - Reporting period January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016 reflects an overall deficit of \$14,415 with Revenue accounts generating a deficit of \$29,196, Wage accounts a deficit of \$81,263, Other Operating Expenses a surplus of \$64,029, and Interdepartmentals a surplus of \$26,492. Overall the Service is in a deficit of \$2,402 per month compared to budget through the first six months.

- e) Monthly Compliments – Chief Davis
  - o June Compliments: 7 Citizen/External, 3 Community Partners, 3 Internal
  - o July Compliments: 3 Citizen/External, 6 Community Partners, 4 Internal
  - o August Compliments: 8 Citizen/External, 1 Internal
  
- 8) New Business
  - a) Lethbridge Police Service 2015 Annual Report – Chief Davis
    - o Chief Davis acknowledged Kristen Harding for her working in compiling the annual report
    - o Councillor Mearns advised that #5 under Top Calls has sentence incomplete
    - o Efficiencies occurring such as reduction of alarms by 30%, changing the way traffic complaints are handled, looking into tiered policing and identifying a disconnect between PSCC and dispatch where work is being done to be more efficient in assigning calls
  
  - b) Truth and Reconciliation Commission – Chief Davis
    - o Chief Davis advised that Councillor Mauro had requested this refresher discussion and with his absence wondered if this item should be deferred
    - o Agreement to defer this discussion to the November Meeting for attendance of both Chief Davis and Councillor Mauro
  
- 9) Enquiries by the Police Commission
  - Marion Wiebe asked Chief Davis to explain the symbolization of the Stars and Cross Pistols on the sleeves of the officers' dress uniform
  - Councillor Mearns received information of an increase in pan handling near No Frills. Inspector Ascroft will notify patrols, an appropriate program for DOT
  - Jean Valgardson asked if special protections are provided for officers relating to dealings with Fentanyl. Chief Davis advised from the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police level that the RCMP are taking the lead on an anecdote. Option of an aerosol spray but this is in the early stages. Currently members have air packs available, gloves and knowledge of the hazards
  - Victoria Chester shared her positive comments regarding the LPS Annual Report
  - Councillor Mearns explained that following the marijuana regulation discussion with City Council, members of Council attending the AUMA Conference will discuss this issue with other colleagues and have dialogue at the provincial level
  
- 10) Enquiries by the Public
  - There were no enquiries from the public
  
- 11) Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.