

## STRATFORD POLICE SERVICES BOARD

A meeting of the Stratford Police Services Board was held on the 23rd day of October, 2019 at 4:30 pm, Council Chamber, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Dan Mathieson (Chair), Graham Bunting, Tim Doherty, Rosemary Tanner, Chief Greg Skinner, Deputy Chief Gerry Foster, Inspector Jason Clarke, Inspector Mark Taylor, Pat Shantz – Executive Assistant.

**REGRETS:** Peter Hyde

### MINUTES

1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest and a general nature thereof.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 18th, 2019

**MOTION by** Rosemary Tanner | Tim Doherty

**That the minutes of the regular meeting of September 18th, 2019, be adopted as presented. Carried.**

4. Hearings of Deputations and Presentations

There were no hearings of deputations and presentations scheduled.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

5.1 Accessible Taxis

As requested by the Board at the last meeting, the Chief contacted Stratford Taxi to obtain additional information. He was advised that over a six month period, Stratford Taxi received an average of 50 calls per month for an accessible taxi. Each ride took between 45 minutes and an hour to deliver each passenger. It was a lengthy process due to the accessible taxi sitting until it was needed, and having a driver changeover from his vehicle to the accessible taxi and then back to his vehicle. The fee of \$11.50 per ride made it unfeasible to continue. Stratford Taxi has since been sold.

The City's Acting CAO, Joan Thomson, called a meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> and the Chief and Deputy Chief attended along with representatives from Social Services, One Care, Parallel Transit, United Way and the Clerk's Office to discuss this issue. One Care advised that they receive 400-700 calls per month for accessible rides. They are not an on-demand service and rides must be pre-booked, sometimes two weeks in advance. Parallel Transit had received six emergency calls over the past two years regarding individuals with accessible needs being stranded. The calls came from either the Police or Fire Departments and a parallel bus was dispatched to assist each time, even though the individuals were not registered clients. The City's Acting Clerk has called other municipalities across the province and they have all indicated that they are having the same difficulties and being in compliance with the legislation. Only one municipality requires a broker with five or more taxis to have an accessible vehicle.

The legislation says that communities must be able to provide an on-demand accessible taxi service that meets the needs of the community. Following the meeting, One Care and Parallel Transit planned to meet to discuss how they can meet that need. The Chief advised them that there are currently 90 registered taxi drivers in Stratford, and perhaps they would be willing to upgrade their license to drive an accessible vehicle.

#### 5.2 Court Security

The Chief advised that he is working on a plan to be reviewed by the Board, however, more consultation is required with the Courts in order to meet their needs and to meet the legislation required under the new Police Services Act.

### 6. Receipt of Monthly Statistical Reports – September 2019

Inspector Taylor reviewed the individual Statistical Reports for September 2019 with the Board and answered questions.

#### 6.1 Stratford

There were 1691 calls for service, 144 e-tickets were issued and 107 warnings were given. It was noted that there were 19 break and enter occurrences. Two individuals have been charged with five of those occurrences and it is believed they are responsible for a majority of the others.

#### 6.2 St Marys

There were 289 calls for service, 36 e-tickets were issued and 19 warnings were given.

#### 6.3 Perth South

There were 251 calls for service, 95 e-tickets were issued and 35 warnings were given.

#### 6.4 Crime Stoppers

The Crime Stoppers Report is from the month of August and September. Four tips were received in August and 6 were received in September. Tips related to drug issues exceed other tips received.

**MOTION by** Rosemary Tanner | Graham Bunting  
**That the Monthly Statistic Reports for September 2019 be received. Carried.**

### 7. Approval of Monthly Accounts – September 2019

The Chief reviewed the accounts with the Board and advised that grants are down in the amount of \$21,000 which will affect the budget. Overall, there is a potential for a surplus at the end of the year, however, salaries and wages resulting from contract negotiations will affect the final amount.

**Motion by** Graham Bunting | Tim Doherty  
**That the monthly accounts for September, 2019, be approved for payment. Carried.**

### 8. Police Association Business

There was no Police Association business at this time.

9. Public Complaints

The Chief advised that there were no new public complaints to share with the Board.

10. Correspondence

The Chief answered questions from the Board regarding the correspondence received.

11. Consent Items

11.1 Taxi Driver Licenses

**Motion by** Tim Doherty | Graham Bunting  
**That on the recommendation of the Chief, Daniel Alfieri (City Cabs), Linda Blockeel (Stratford Taxi), Greg Ilgner (City Cabs) be approved for a taxi license. Carried.**

12. New Business

12.1 SIU Investigation

Inspector Clarke advised that back in December 2018, two officers attended a call where there was an altercation involving an individual. A tazer was used and as a result, the individual suffered facial fractures. The case was closed on October 15, 2019, and the SIU stated that while the injury to the individual was unfortunate, the use of force was legally justified and there were no grounds for proceeding with any charges against the officers.

12.2 Awards Recognition Ceremony

The Chief advised the Board that the annual Awards & Recognition Ceremony will be held on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Arden Park Hotel beginning at 5:00 pm. The Board is invited to attend.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 20th, at 4:30 pm in the Council Chamber.

14. Adjournment

**Motion by** Graham Bunting | Rosemary Tanner  
**That the meeting adjourn to an In Camera session to discuss personal matters about identifiable individuals, to reconvene in open session if required. Carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

“Dan Mathieson”

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Dan Mathieson - Chair