

**MINUTES
CITY OF MORDEN
POLICE BOARD**

August 7, 2013 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Alex Fedorchuk (Chair), Brad Neduzak (Chief of Police), Brian Minaker, Ted Fransen, Heather Francis, Glenn Ritchie

Absent with Regrets:

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Chief's Report

2.1 Chief Neduzak stated that it is good to see people attending the Police Board meetings in an effort to help Morden Police Service be the best it can be.

3.0 Other Business

3.1 Traffic Stats

Brian Minaker stated that traffic stats were quite low compared to last year and wondered why this is. Chief Neduzak stated that they are down from last year. One of the reasons is that in 2011 MPS implemented a Traffic Unit which increased traffic stats. They found that they were constantly pulling the officer scheduled to "traffic duties" to help with general calls and shift coverage. Another concern was that they were getting many complaints from Morden residents that they could not drive anywhere without getting stopped by police.

3.2 Speeding

Brian Minaker brought up a concern of semi's that speed through town. He was wondering if it more signs could be posted at all ends of town. Chief Neduzak said that we are looking into electronic signs that would show a driver's speed. These signs are helpful in gathering data on how fast vehicles are going in a certain spot and help to know where traffic needs to be regulated more often.

3.3 Police Vehicles

Heather Francis confirmed with Chief Neduzak that we would be getting a new K9 vehicle to replace the old Crown Victoria. She wanted to know if we were keeping the current K9 vehicle or taking it out of rotation. City council is under the impression that we would be taking one of the vehicles out of rotation. Chief Neduzak requested that we keep the current K9 vehicle in place of the Crown Victoria. Officers are often in need of an "extra" vehicle.

3.4 Crosswalks

Heather Francis asked what Morden Police planned to do about the crosswalk at 13th Street and Thornhill. The crosswalk is not marked clearly, making it dangerous for pedestrians that cross the highway. Chief Neduzak, along with the City of Morden, has written the Highways department about this and is waiting for a reply. There was some talk about conducting another survey. The wait list with the Highways department is quite lengthy. If we are wanting something done in the mean time it would have to be on the City's budget.

3.5 Overtime

Glen Richie commented about overtime and how there are three officers that take up 50% of the overtime and other officers have none. Chief Neduzak explained that one officer would be the K9 officer as they are a specialized unit. Other members write more traffic tickets than others, resulting in court appearances. Some officers are more involved in drug warrants, which is another specialized unit.

3.5.1 Glen Richie asked how often the K9 unit would get called out and if there are contracts with the organizations that call. Chief Neduzak explained that all the organizations are aware that we currently do not charge. MPS has begun developing contracts for the future. Chief Neduzak also reminded the Board that often other organizations have helped us out with their specialized units, free of charge. Alex Fedorchuk suggested that we track call outs this year and possibly next year and review numbers at that time.

3.6 Training Schedule

Glen Richie questioned the training schedule and how it works. Chief Neduzak said that every year both he and the Sergeants review training. Every member gets a chance to express interest in training that compliment their strengths. The Chief and Sergeants try to be accommodating with this as much as they are able to be.

4.0 Office Safety

Glen Ritchie brought up the lack of security glass in the Morden Police Office. He would like to suggest that Chief Neduzak look into the cost of installing this as it is a safety issue.

5.0 Registered Guest(s)

5.1 Bill Melloff brought up two issues of concern with him. One was bike traffic on the sidewalk parallel to Thornhill Street. His concern is that elderly people that often walk there may not be able to hear bikes come up behind them. He was wondering if a simple solution might be to require bells on bikes. Chief Neduzak replied by saying that generally bike should be ridden on the street. As Thornhill Street is a very busy highway, it would be preferable for bikers to ride their bikes on the sidewalk. Members provide bike safety talks in the schools to help educate children to be aware of other pedestrians around them.

5.2 Bill Melloff also brought up the concern about the heavy traffic that is constant on Thornhill Street. He has sat and watched the traffic flow and believes that it is too much for a road that goes through a town. He also believes many vehicles, including grain/gravel trucks, also speed along this stretch often. He would be in support of a perimeter on the out skirts of the City.

6.0 Other Comments

6.1 Alex Fedorchuk suggested that the Police Board apply for the Ride Along Program with Morden Police Service.

6.2 Ted Fransen approved for Police Board training. There will be more training available for the Board this spring.

6.3 Visit from Andrew Minor, Executive Director of the MB Police Commission, on September 4, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to Commence: Heather Frances, Glen Ritchie (Carried)

7.0 In-Camera Minutes – 8:20 p.m.

7.1 Funded Position

- 7.1.1 Alex Fedorchuk brought up the government funded position. Chief Neduzak stated that this is a limited 3 year position that is funded to the end of 2013. The City of Morden was expected to fund the position after that. There seems to be consideration with Council that when the funding runs out that we lose this position. Chief Neduzak would like to have this resolved as soon as possible. It was suggested that we write the Minister of Justice, Andrew Swan, requesting continued funding.

Motion to write letter to Minister of Justice: Alex Fedorchuk, Ted Fransen
(Carried)

- 7.1.2 A question was raised regarding 24 hour policing and how far away we are from providing this. Chief Neduzak said that we are 2-3 officers away from being able to provide this service.

Motion to move out of Camera: Glen Ritchie, Heather Frances (Carried)

8.0 Moved by Glen Ritchie that we adjourn meeting. Seconded by Heather Frances. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.