

POLICE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING January 17, 2023

Committee Members Present:

Chair Councillor Chris Goddard
Jen Boyd, CAO
Councillor Rod Reeves
Councillor Ty Walsh
Srgt. Harold Prime, Kings RCMP
Pat Jodrie, Citizen Representative
Bruce Morse, Citizen Representative
Jane Perry, Citizen Representative
Natalie Palmer, Community Recreation Coordinator

Absent with regrets:

Mayor Don Clarke

1. Call to Order

The Police Services Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The previous minutes from the November 15, 2022 PSAC meeting were approved as circulated.

3. Approval of the Agenda

CAO Boyd motioned to add a Policing Services Review Update to ongoing business. The motion was carried.

4. Monthly Reports – Sergeant Harold Prime

Sergeant Prime gave a brief overview of the monthly RCMP reports for the months of November and December.

a. November, 2022 RCMP Report

- Sergeant Prime made a note that there would be a new Staff Sergeant appointed to Kings County RCMP, likely by late spring.
- Sergeant Prime highlighted an increase in foot patrols within Berwick. This was in response to a previous request by committee members.
- The committee raised questions around one sexual related offence that was listed in the report. Sergeant Prime informed the committee that no charges had been laid for that incident yet.

b. December, 2022 RCMP Report

- Sergeant Prime noted that there were a some ongoing significant investigations as a result of incidents that occurred in December. These included:
 1. A break and enter offence at a local residence.
 2. A break and enter offence at Wheaton's in Berwick.
- Sergeant Prime also highlighted an increase in shoplifting offences in this monthly report.
- Sergeant Prime also issued a warning of occurrences of phone scams. The number that had been reported was relatively low, but it was urged to practice diligence on this matter. Kings County Seniors' Safety Society was identified as a key player in local outreach and education on this issue.

Committee members raised concerns regarding trail policing and safety enforcement for ATV's once snow had fallen. Sergeant Prime explained that Kings RCMP doesn't have the proper resources (snowmobiles, etc.) to do their regular patrols in those conditions. Kings RCMP works with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to carry out localized enforcement when resources allow.

Committee members made a request for the contact information for the Seniors' Safety Officer to be distributed once this role had been appointed.

There was also interest expressed in having a formal presentation be organized by Town staff for an upcoming Police Services Advisory Committee meeting. It was suggested to alter the regular meeting time of the PSAC in the event of this presentation in order to accommodate senior citizens that may wish to attend. CAO Boyd recommended a separate information session facilitated by REMO to take place in an afternoon time slot instead.

5. Ongoing Business:

a. Policing Services Review Update

- CAO Boyd reported that she had reached out to a liaison to request further required information to carry out the review.
- CAO Boyd stated that Council was awaiting the release of an Request for Proposals (RFP) from the Town of Wolfville before moving forward.
- CAO Boyd identified the process of staff changes and hiring as a priority in order to have the resources to properly conduct the Policing Review. This process is currently underway.
- The hiring of an external body to gauge community needs and interest was also flagged as a priority.
- **CAO Boyd concluded that the Policing Review would be conducted, but that it would be deferred until a later date.**

6. New Business

-The committee discussed the addition of a new all-way stop at the intersection of Foster and Union Street.

-Srgt. Prime informed the committee that due to feedback, signage had been increased and RCMP was working with the Town to make the transition run smoothly.

7. Next meeting:

The following meeting was set for Tuesday, March 14th at 6:30 PM.

8. Adjournment

The Police Advisory Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.