

### **ATTENDING**

Mayor Trinacty  
Councillor Serino (chair)  
Councillor Chris Goddard (vice chair)  
Councillor Ty Walsh  
Bruce Morse, Citizen Representative  
Pat Jodrie, Citizen Representative  
Mark Childs, Citizen Representative  
Jennifer Boyd, CAO  
Cpl. Dionne Canning  
Recording Secretary, Roger Flynn, Office Administrative Coordinator

### **ABSENT WITH REGRETS**

Sgt. Harold Prime

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

a. IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 BE APPROVED WITH AMENDMENTS.

**Motion Carried**

### **3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

a. IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF Jan. 21, 2025 BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

**Motion Carried**

**4. Introduction** of new Citizen Representative, Mark Childs.

~~**5. Presentation** on the PPSA from RCMP Liaison Desjardins, Danielle, Executive Director, Hayley Crichton.~~

**Cancelled, to be rescheduled. Date is TBA.**

### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. RCMP Report**, Cpl. Canning

- **Daily Call Volume:** The RCMP reported an average of two police calls per day within town limits, based on data from their internal tracking system.
- **Staffing Levels:** There are no current staffing vacancies. The committee requested more specific information regarding the number of officers assigned to the Kingston Detachment that serve this area. Recruitment is underway for a school resource officer.

- **Investigation Criteria:** Significant investigations are identified based on the most serious offense involved, with detailed tracking of primary incidents and related information.
- **Patrol Coverage:** The officer acknowledged there is a routine patrol pattern down Commercial Street and committed to expanding patrols to include more side streets beyond the main commercial areas.
- **Traffic Enforcement:** With new traffic unit members in place, the officer will request increased traffic enforcement presence in the town, particularly in Berwick.
- **Crime Communication:** A proposal was made to receive redacted crime pattern information via the strategic communications contact to the town who can send it out through their local business email distribution.
- **Side-by-Side Vehicle Regulations:** The committee requested information on the use of side-by-side vehicles on town roads and when it may be permitted. The committee seemed open to allowing side-by-side vehicles on town roads when users are traveling between businesses at low speed, with an emphasis on safety and minimal disruption.
- **Mental Health Calls:** The increase in mental health-related calls may be due to a small number of high-frequency individuals or broader social issues; these calls are being closely monitored.

#### **b. DOJ Policing Service Recipient Update February 2025.**

The February 2025 Policing Service Recipient Update provides updates on training, governance, recruitment, equipment modernization, and financial planning for RCMP services in Nova Scotia. Key highlights include new officer recruitment progress, rollout of body-worn cameras, funding for replacement vehicles including electric models, and the upcoming final report of the Provincial Policing Review. Municipalities are encouraged to participate in upcoming training, meetings, and apply for grants supporting public safety and crime prevention initiatives.

#### **c. Staff Report** Jennifer Boyd, CAO

There is currently one vacancy on the Police Advisory Board awaiting appointment by the Minister of Justice. The Town's existing Police Advisory Board Bylaw is outdated and not aligned with the Nova Scotia Police Act; a draft update is expected for review in May. Council will guide which outdated Town Bylaws should be reviewed by the Board. Council has also decided not to include a Part-time Bylaw Officer in the 2025/26 budget. Roger is collaborating with the Department of Justice to gain access to the Justice Enterprise Information Network (JEIN). It has been confirmed that Summary Offence Ticket (SOT) entries will only be recorded under the Town of Berwick if they are issued in relation to a violation of a Berwick municipal bylaw.

**d. Citizens have remarked that they have been seeing a reduced police presence in the Town.**

Concerns were raised about limited patrol coverage on the east side of town, with a request for officers to extend their presence beyond high-traffic areas. To support this, it was proposed that an orientation package be developed to help new officers understand the town's expectations. While shift work poses challenges for in-person meetings, the orientation could be supplemented by clear written materials. Additionally, assigning a strategic communications contact to share key information with local businesses was recommended, emphasizing the need for clear and consistent communication with the community.

**e. Meeting Minutes** was added during the meeting.

The committee discussed the importance of transparency in meeting minutes, emphasizing the need to capture key questions and discussions without identifying individuals. Members highlighted the balance between sufficient detail and fairness to the recorder, with a focus on unified committee reporting. Roger will seek clarification on appropriate minute content during the April 11th training.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be held May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 6:30pm.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BE ADJOURNED 8:02 pm.

**Motion Carried**

Approved by Committee on May 20th, 2025  
As recorded by Roger Flynn, Office Administrative Coordinator