

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BRANDON POLICE BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2024 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

PRESENT: Board Members: Deb Arpin, Chair
 Councillor Shawn Berry
 Councillor Barry Cullen
 Mayor Jeff Fawcett
 City Manager Ron Bowles
 Doug Gerrard
 Paige Jaenen
 Marycia Kruk
 Adetayo Subair
 Shannon Brichon

Staff: Acting Chief of Police Randy Lewis
 Debbie Nelson, Legislative Services

ABSENT: NIL

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. ADOPTION OF PUBLIC SESSION AGENDA

Kruk-Gerrard

That the Agenda for the Public Session meeting of the Brandon Police Board to be held on Friday, April 22, 2024 be adopted. CARRIED.

2. UPDATE ON THE DETENTION CENTRE BUILD

Acting Deputy Greg Hebert provided an update on the Detention Centre build. He advised that he had toured the facility this morning and confirmed that the roof was installed on the Sally Port, offices & cells had been painted and the flooring was completed in the cells. He noted that the flooring was expected to be installed in the offices in the coming days, the majority of the ductwork had been put in place and the electrical was 80 – 90% complete. Acting Deputy Chief Hebert ended his presentation by advising the group that the furniture for the offices and cells was expected to be delivered May 3, 2024 and, providing the work continued on schedule, it was hoped the cells could be occupied by the end of May.

3. REPORT FROM THE ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

The Board considered a report from Acting Chief Randy Lewis dated April 22, 2024 where Acting Chief Lewis provided a general overview of the activities within the Brandon Police Service since the February 23, 2024 meeting as well as the current statistics. The updated included confirmation of the completion of the 2023 Annual Report and Strategic Plan and submission to the Province of Manitoba.

Highlights of Acting Chief Lewis' report include:

The Community Level

- BPS Expansion Biweekly Meetings
- Brandon Local Immigration Partnership (BLIP) Meeting
- Manitoba Housing Meeting with Acting Deputy Minister Brian Malcowich
- "Street Stories" Hosted by the Brandon Neighborhood Renewal Corporation
- Westman Drug Treatment Court Operations Committee Meeting

The Provincial Level

- Manitoba Association of Chiefs of Police Spring Conference Planning Meeting
 - Brandon will host the MACP Annual General Meeting May 9, 2024 with excess of 100 police executive leaders coming from across Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario.
- Provincial Fuel Supply Shortage Meetings
- Manitoba Provincial Policing Standards Meeting with the Brandon Police Board and City Council

Statistics

The Acting Chief noted that Methamphetamine continued to be a concern with members successful in removing approximately 330.11 grams to date in 2024. He also advised that BPS Members had seized 9029.51 grams of Fentanyl so far in 2024 with a street value of \$1.1 Million.

4. CALLS FOR SERVICE

Acting Chief Lewis reviewed the calls for service noting that the total number of calls for service received as of March 31, 2024 was 8,911 which represented an 8.67% increase over 2023 and a 5.68% increase over the 10 year average. He confirmed that calls for service are higher than they've been in the past 10 years with property calls for service increasing at a higher rate than usual and court order calls for service (warrants, curfews, breaches) also increasing.

2024	Calls for Service	Calls Per Sworn Officer (96)
January	3,332	34
February	2,738	38
March		
Total	6,070	72

Acting Chief Lewis spoke about the Ride-A-Long Program, which provides individuals with an interest in law enforcement an opportunity to shadow an officer during their shift and experience first-hand the types of calls officers attend and how they are handled.

He stated that there has been thirty (30) ride-a-longs thus far in 2024 with eight (8) of those being students from the Public Safety Course at Assiniboine Community College and eleven (11) being students from the Manitoba First Nations Police Service.

Acting Chief Lewis advised that non-sworn members continued to process files and support the Brandon Police Service with 1,261 Criminal Records Checks processed to 643 thus far in 2024 compared to 1,305 to this time in 2023.

5. BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT/TICKET REVENUE

Acting Chief Lewis noted that while the By-law Unit served many important roles within BPS, including animal control, process service and by-law enforcement, parking and compliance tickets were one of the few areas that generated revenue for the budget. He reminded the Board that the By-law Unit complement had increased from 6 to 8 in 2023 thanks to the Board and City Council. He explained that although the complement had increased, they continued to struggle throughout most of 2023 getting positions filled; however, as of November 2023 they were at the full complement of eight. Acting Chief Lewis stated that he was pleased to report that having the By-law Unit fully staffed had generated an increase of over \$20,000 to the parking and compliance ticket above the budgeted revenue amount. He also advised that the combined budget amount for parking and compliance tickets for 2024 was \$187,000 and as of April 17, 2024 \$106,000 (57% of the annual budget) had already been generated. He stated that the level of revenue generated was a good indicator that officers were out and about enforcing the city's by-laws as they were hired to do.

SPEED ENFORCEMENT

Acting Chief Lewis updated the Board on how the Traffic Unit and Patrol members were actively involved in traffic enforcement and noted that speed continued to be a concern year after year, particularly in the Spring. Notable tickets with fines up to the range of \$700 included:

- * 85 km/hr in a 30 km/hr school zone resulting in a Serious Offence Notice and a Hearing scheduled at Manitoba Public Insurance within 7 days were they were most likely going to have their license revoked for a period of time
- * 96 km/hr in a 50 km/hr residential area
- * 60 km/hr in a 30 km/hr school zone
- * 86 km/hr in a 50 km/hr zone

6. EMPLOYEE AWARDS CEREMONY

Acting Chief Lewis provided the Board with an update on the annual employee awards ceremony held March 28, 2024. Highlights of the awards included:

Exemplary Service by Chief of Police

- ❖ Community Cadets – Gabriel Yanes, Abhi Patel and Brooklyn Chartrand
- ❖ Cst. Ron Brossart

Favorable Notice

- ❖ Cst. Ron Brossart & Cst. Tegan Nagorski
- ❖ Sgt. Dana McCallum & Cst. Bruce Ewanyshyn

Distinguished Service

- ❖ Cst. Marc Dedecker – 12 Years of Service

Governor General of Canada Exemplary Service Awards

- ❖ A/D/Chief Greg Hebert – 30 Years
- ❖ Sgt. Jason Dupuis – 20 Years
- ❖ Cst. Myron Hamm – 20 Years

7. DOWNTOWN OPERATIONS TEAM

Acting Chief Randy Lewis provided the Board with an update on the Downtown Operations Team. He explained that the Team was made up of numerous City of Brandon Departments, including Police, Fire, Parks, Housing & Wellness, Transit and Sanitation who worked together to identify and address issues in the downtown area. Acting Chief Lewis advised that Sgt. Dana McCallum represented BPS on the steering committee and Cst. Jordan Barbeau had replaced Cst. Selena Samalgasky as the Business Liaison Officer. He advised that Cst. Barbeau, through the Brandon Chamber of Commerce, had introduced himself to many of the business owners and continued to work with residents, businesses and those that frequent downtown on any issues that may arise.

8. UPDATE ON POLICE CHIEF SEARCH

a) Dissolving of the Hiring Committee

The Chair explained that although a thorough search had been done and an offer made to a candidate from out of province; the candidate chose not to accept the position. She thanked the Board, Brandon Police Service and the community for their patience as the Board works through this process. Ms. Arpin confirmed that the Board was now working with the City of Brandon hiring firm and it was hoped that a new Chief of Police would be appointed in the near future.

The following motion was carried unanimously:

Gerrard-Berry

That the hiring committee consisting of Shannon Brichon, Doug Gerrard, Chair Deb Arpin and Vice-Chair Shawn Berry be hereby dissolved. CARRIED

b) Update on the Proposal for Hiring Firm

The Vice-Chair advised that he and the Chair had met with the General Manager of Corporate Services and the Manager of Procurement Services who advised that the tender had now closed with more applicants than expected. Given the increased number of applicants it was taking a little longer than expected to

award the tender; however, it was hoped that would happen in the very near future. Councillor Berry confirmed that, although the firm would be conducting searches for a number of key positions within the City of Brandon, the Police Chief was the top priority and would be the first position posted. He reiterated that it was hoped to have a new Chief of Police in place in the near future and thanked Acting Chief Lewis for staying on to assist in the meantime.

9. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

June 14, 2024

10. ADJOURNMENT

Berry-Jaenen

That the Public Session of the Police Board meeting be adjourned. (12:35 p.m.).
CARRIED

Debbie Nelson

Debbie Nelson, Secretary