



**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, May 29, 2008

**Niagara Police Services Board
Board Room 4th Floor, 110 James Street, St. Catharines**

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 8:34 a.m.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. L. Iggulden, Chair
Mr. D. Martin, Vice Chair
Mr. B. Bentley
Mr. T. Shoalts
Mr. B. Smeaton
Mr. L. Tufford
Mr. M. Woodhouse

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chief of Police W.E. Southall
Deputy Chief of Police G. Beaulieu
Mr. G. Fuentes, Chief Administrative Officer
Superintendent J. Matthews, Executive Services
Superintendent D. Parrent, Central Region
Superintendent B. Wright, Eastern Region
Superintendent D. Kane, Emergency & Investigative Support
Inspector S. McLean, Executive Officer, Chief of Police
Inspector G. Skafffeld, 3 District
S/Sergeant R. Bleich, 8 District Commander
Sergeant P. McCauley, Executive Officer, Deputy Chief
P.C. J. Rotella, Executive Officer, CAO
P.C. J. Forgeron, Media Officer
Mr. A. Askoul, Director of Information/Communication Technology
Ms. M. George, Director of Business Services
Mr. C. Fisher, Manager, Facilities, Fleet & Supply
Ms. L. Jerome, Human Resources Manager
Ms. A. Hepplewhite, Manager Corporate Records Systems
Mr. J. Saunders, Manager, Audio-Video Unit

Mr. W.B. McKaig, Solicitor (departed at 9:45 a.m.)
Ms. D. Morton, Executive Director
Ms. S. Taylor, Executive Assistant

Mr. P. DiSimoni, President, Niagara Region Police Association

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Todd Erskine, Brock University

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

92. Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, April 17, 2008.

Moved by: T. Shoalts
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, April 17, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

93. Minutes of the Licencing Public Meeting held Monday, April 28, 2008.

Moved by: T. Shoalts
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the Minutes of the Licencing Public Meeting held Monday, April 28, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

REPORTS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Chair Iggulden reported the following:

OAPSB 2008 Conference

Member Smeaton attended the 46th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards held in Stratford from April 24 – 26. The program theme was *'Much Ado About Policing'* and the agenda included presentations from a number of prominent politicians and individuals from the policing community. Delegates from across the province participated in discussion groups and workshops held during events.

OAPSB "Queen's Park Day"

On April 28 Vice Chair Doug Martin represented the Board at the OAPSB 'Queen's Park Day' held at the legislature in Toronto. Police Services Board and Chiefs of Police from across Ontario attended the full day 'lobby' event meeting with Cabinet Ministers, leaders of the opposition parties, and MPP's. Among key issues brought to the attention of the decision-makers were the uncontrolled escalation of court security, prisoner transportation and court administration costs, the need for legislation to regulate second-hand shops, and the importance of sustainable funding for police services and programs.

Niagara Regional Police Auxiliary Swearing-In Ceremony

On April 29 Member Shoalts attended the NRPS Auxiliary Recruit Graduation Ceremony and welcomed 18 new Auxiliary officers to the Service on behalf of the Board.

Annual NRPS Awards Ceremony

On May 28 Members Smeaton, Bentley, Shoalts and Tufford attended the NRPS Annual Awards Ceremony. The event recognized where members of the Service and citizens who have made valuable contributions to the community as well as members with 20 and 30 years of exemplary service and those who retired during 2007. Member Smeaton was thanked for bringing greetings on behalf of the Board.

Upcoming Meetings – PSB Boardroom

- Licencing Committee – Thursday, June 12 at 8:30 a.m.;
- Human Resources Committee – Thursday, June 12 at 9:30 a.m.
- Next Board Meeting – Thursday, June 26 at 8:30 a.m.

REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Southall reported the following:

Operational Statistics

Marijuana Grow Statistics

For the period January 1 through May 28, 2008:

Total street value seized \$3,080,000;

Homicides

For the period January 1 through May 28, 2008:

2 compared to 3, same period 2007;

Traffic Fatality Statistics

For the period January 1 through May 28, 2008:

10 compared to 13, same period 2007;

Serious Injury Collisions

For the period January 1 through May 28, 2008:

9 compared to 11, same period 2007.

Tug of War Win

On May 17 the Niagara Regional Police Service Tug of War team marched to the Rainbow Bridge, in Niagara Falls, to compete in the annual Tug of War with the Niagara Falls, New York, Police Department and Niagara Falls, NY, Sheriff's Department. The colour guard, the Pipes and Drums band, and numerous officers led the team as they prepared for the challenge of returning the trophy to Canada. After the starting horn was blown by Niagara Falls Mayor Salci, the team pulled to two quick and decisive wins, thereby ensuring bragging rights were retained by the Canadian side. The day was a huge success for the team members and the Service.

Chief Southall then introduced seven members of the NRPS Tug of War Team who were in attendance with the trophy which will be proudly displayed until next year's competition.

Serial Robber Arrested

On May 5 officers from the St. Catharines Detective Office and Street Crime Unit were involved in the search for a serial robber who had committed robberies with a handgun at a number of convenience stores in the St. Catharines and Thorold areas. While conducting surveillance at an Avondale store on St. Paul Street West in St. Catharines, detectives observed a male fitting the description of the suspect. Officers converged on the male, who pointed his gun at one of the officers in an attempt to evade capture. The officers apprehended the suspect a short distance from the store and were able to recover a replica firearm made from a black resin material. The male, a 29-year-old Fort Erie resident, was charged with 31 criminal charges relating to a series of 12 armed robberies. The excellent work by the detectives was the key to eliminating a very dangerous criminal from terrorizing convenience store operators in the St. Catharines area.

"Drive Safe" Program Kicks Off in Smithville

On May 15 the 'Drive Safe' Program held its kick-off demonstration for the students attending South Lincoln High School in Smithville. The demonstration involved a "mock crash" that simulates the realistic effects of a serious motor vehicle collision. The simulation combines the response of police, fire departments and paramedics to address the injuries suffered by the drivers and passengers of the collision. The real-life exhibition is intended to be graphically presented and received as a significant educational opportunity for the students. Since the initiation of the program six years ago, over 15,000 students have witnessed the demonstration that emphasizes the negative effects of drinking and driving.

Major Marihuana Grow Operation Seizures

- On May 28 the NRPS seized at least 15,000 plants at 5 locations with an estimated street value of \$15 million and equipment estimated at \$200,000 in the culmination of a six-month investigation, the largest marijuana operation in Service history. The five indoor sites, some of which included a former church and a grapevine growing greenhouse, are located in Jordan, Wainfleet and Thorold. Eight suspects have been arrested with one remaining at large.

- On May 26 a combined investigative effort involving the 3 District Uniform Branch and Detective Services Unit, along with members from the Guns, Gangs and Grows Unit, the Morality Unit, and the Emergency Tactical Unit executed three Controlled Drugs and Substances Act search warrants at three addresses in the Port Colborne area. As a result, police seized over \$1.6 million dollars in marijuana, two firearms, over \$2,000 dollars in cash, and \$35,000 dollars worth of marijuana growing equipment. Two Port Colborne area men have been charged with numerous counts relating to the production and trafficking of a controlled substance.

These are significant seizures and further examples of the prevalence of this type of activity in our communities.

Ontario Chiefs of Police 2008 Conference

The Niagara Regional Police Service is hosting the 57th Annual Conference and Tradeshow of the OACP June 15 - 18 in Niagara Falls to be attended by an estimated membership of 200 Ontario Chiefs of Police and members from federal, provincial, regional, municipal and First Nations police services from across Ontario.

2008 NRPS/PSB/NRPA Awards Ceremony

Chief Southall thanked the Board members for their participation and attendance at the May 28 annual Awards Ceremony, a successful tribute to Service members and community members. The Chief also gave special thanks to Vickie Boston and her team for the evening's production, and to Regional Chair Partington for his participation.

Prestigious Awards for the NRPS

Chief Southall announced that the NRPS has been awarded three prestigious awards:

- Detective Constable Michelle K. Dywan, 3 District, for her efforts for the Ontario Law Enforcement Special Olympics Torch Run, to be presented at the 2008 OACP Conference on June 18;
- Port Dalhousie Partnership for the significant reduction in community crime in 2007, the Community Mobilization Award by the OACP;
- NRPS, RMON Public Works Department and the CAA as partners in the 'Think and Drive' Program, a national award, details of which to be provided at a later date.

118. **Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services – Clarification of Statement**
The Board considered a letter dated May 28, 2008 from the Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, providing clarification to a Ministry spokesperson's statement quoted in the May 28 edition of the St. Catharines Standard about police facilities.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the information be received.

Carried.

PRESENTATIONS

94. **I.M.P.A.C.T. (Intensive Measures Police & Community Together) Program**
The Board considered Service report 99/2008 dated May 16, 2008 providing the Board with background information and presentation relating to a joint District School Board of Niagara, Brock University and Niagara Regional Police Service intervention program, I.M.P.A.C.T. (Intensive Measures Police & Community Together) Program, for at-risk youth in the Niagara Region.

NRPS Superintendent Bob Wright, Eastern Region, and Mr. Todd Erskine representing Brock University were in attendance to address the Board, relating the accolades that the mentoring program has received.

Moved by: B. Smeaton
Seconded by: T. Shoalts

That the information and presentation be received;

And further, that the Board continue to support the I.M.P.A.C.T. Program in principle.

Carried.

117. **NRPS Facilities – Chronology of NRPS Facilities**
Chief of Police Wendy Southall and Deputy Chief Gary Beaulieu provided the Board with a presentation on the chronology of NRPS facilities.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the information and presentation be received.

Carried.

DEPUTATIONS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

95. **Ontario Association of Police Services Boards – 2008 Conference Sponsorship Acknowledgment**

The Board considered a letter dated May 12, 2008 from Mary Smiley, President, OAPSB, acknowledging the Board's contribution toward the success of the OAPSB 46th Annual Conference held in Stratford April 24-26, 2008.

96. **Niagara Regional Police Male Chorus – Funding Acknowledgment**

The Board considered a letter dated May 5, 2008 from Joe McDonald, President, Niagara Regional Police Male Chorus, thanking the Board for its moral and financial support of the chorus through its 2008 performances both in the Niagara Region and beyond.

97. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 7-2008 April 10, 2008 CSC 5-2008 April 2, 2008**

The Board considered a letter dated April 11, 2008 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the April 10 approval by Regional Council of the Corporate Services Committee recommendations for Communications CSD 36-2008, CSD 37-2008 dated April 2, 2008 and CSC 30-2008 dated March 5, 2008 from the Police Services Board.

98. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 9-2008 May 1, 2008 CSD 50-2008 April 16, 2008**

The Board considered a letter dated May 5, 2008 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the May 1 approval by Regional Council of the Corporate Services Committee recommendation for Report CSD 50-2008 dated April 16, 2008 from the Police Services Board.

99. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 9-2008 May 1, 2008 Audit Committee Meeting April 30, 2008; CSD 59-2008 April 30, 2008; Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAB) Disclosures for Year Ended December 31, 2007**

The Board considered a letter dated May 5, 2008 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the May 1 approval by Regional Council of the Audit Committee recommendation of Report CSD 59-2008 relating to the disposition of the Police Contingency Reserve.

100. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 9-2008 May 1, 2008 CSC 9-2008 May 1, 2008**

The Board considered a letter dated May 5, 2008 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the May 1 approval by Regional Council of the Corporate Services Committee recommendation for Communication CSC 32-2008 dated March 10, 2008 from the Police Services Board.

101. **Niagara Parks Police – First Quarter 2008 Report on Special Constables**

The Board considered Service report 90/2008 dated April 10, 2008 providing the Niagara Parks Police Service's first quarter 2008 report relating to public complaints, use of force, discipline and arrests made by the Special Constables employed through the Niagara Parks Police, period January 1 to March 31, 2008.

102. **Quarterly Report – Policing Standards Unit – Administration of the Public Complaints System**

The Board considered Service report 97/2008 dated April 9, 2008 providing the Board with information relating to the investigations of alleged police misconduct reported by members of the public for the first quarter, period January 1 through March 31, 2008 and statistical yearly comparison, pursuant to Board By-law 173-1997.

103. **Special Fund – March 1 - 31, 2008**

The Board considered Service report 91/2008 dated April 18, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the transactions for the Niagara Regional Police Special Funds for the period March 1 to 31, 2008.

104. **Special Fund – April 1 - 30, 2008**

The Board considered Service report 109/2008 dated May 15, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the transactions for the Niagara Regional Police Special Funds for the period April 1 - 30, 2008.

Moved by: L. Tufford
Seconded by: M. Woodhouse

That the information be received.

Carried.

B. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

105. **NRPS Variance Report - to April 30, 2008**

The Board considered Service report 112/2008 dated May 14, 2008 providing the Board with a financial overview and year-end forecast for both the Service and the Board to April 30, 2008.

Moved by: T. Shoalts
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the information be received.

Carried.

106. **Facilities – Tender 2008-T-101 110 James Street Project Ground Floor Renovations – Update**

The Board considered Service report 115/2008 dated May 20, 2008 providing the Board with an update to the ground floor renovations at 110 James Street, St. Catharines.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the information be received.

Carried.

107. **Partnership – NRPS Video Unit & International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA)**

The Board considered Service report 100/2008 dated May 15, 2008 requesting the Board approve a partnership between the Niagara Regional Police Service Video Unit and the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) to produce a police cycling video for the IPMBA following the outlined guidelines on a net zero cost basis.

Moved by: L. Tufford
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

That the Board approve the NRPS Video Unit's participation in a partnership with the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) for the development of a training video on police bicycle operations as outlined in the report.

Carried.

108. **Child Advocacy Centre (CACN)**

The Board considered Service report 107/2008 dated May 12, 2008 requesting the Board approve the transfer of the estimated start-up costs of \$30,000 from the Police Capital Levy Reserve to the 2008 operating budget as committed by the Board in November 2005 to complete the NRPS satellite office at the Child Advocacy Centre Niagara.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the Board approve the transfer of \$30,000 from the Police Capital Levy Reserve to the 2008 Operating Budget and the subsequent distribution of the funds to complete the Niagara Regional Police Service's satellite office at the Child Advocacy Centre Niagara.

Carried.

109. **NRPS – Employee Assistance Program Provider – Homewood Employee Health - Renewal of Service Contract**

The Board considered Service report 123/2008 dated May 20, 2008 requesting the Board approve the renewal of the contract for Homewood Employee Health to continue the provision of the employee assistance services for a further three-year contract.

Moved by: B. Smeaton
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the Board approve the renewal of the service agreement with Homewood Employee Health for the provision of employee assistance services to December 2010 with a total adjustment cost of \$9,406.98 plus GST.

Carried.

110. **NRPS Capital Project ZPO0806 – 2008 IT Equipment Replacement**

The Board considered Service report 113/2008 dated May 20, 2008 requesting the Board approve the initiation of Capital Project ZPO0806 for the 2008 Information Systems equipment representing the normal ongoing replacements and upgrades of technology desktops, laptops including in-vehicle Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) and server hardware equipment.

Moved by: D. Martin
Seconded by: T. Shoalts

That the Board approve:

- 1. The initiation and Capital budget allocation of \$500,000 for Project ZPO0806 – 2008 IT equipment replacement from the approved 2008 Information Systems Capital program;**
- 2. And further, financing for Project ZPO0806 is funded from the Police Capital Levy approval of up to \$500,000.**

Carried.

111. **Purchasing – Annual Maintenance Support – Versadex Records Management System (RMS)**
The Board considered Service report 103/2008 dated May 16, 2008 requesting the Board approve Invoice 0804-068 to Versaterm to maintain the operational RMS system, updates to licences, maintenance after-hour support and ongoing software updates.

Moved by: L. Tufford
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the Board approve the payment of Maintenance/Support fees for Versadex applications from Versaterm, Invoice 0804-068, for the period June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 in the amount of \$138,077 plus applicable taxes, funds budgeted in the Information Systems Account 7412-1804 Repair and Maintenance.

Carried.

112. **Purchasing – Annual Maintenance Contract – IBM Canada Lts - FileNet System**
The Board considered Service report 114/2008 dated May 16, 2008 requesting the Board approve the annual maintenance contract with IBM Canada Lts for the FileNet imaging system for the purpose of imaging and storage of paper occurrence reports, funding allocated in Information Systems Repair and Maintenance Account 7412-1804.

Moved by: T. Shoalts
Seconded by: L. Tufford

That the Board approve the annual maintenance contract with IBM Canada Lts for the FileNet imaging system in the amount of \$37,287.76 plus applicable taxes, funds allocated in Account 7413-1804.

Carried.

113. **Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) – 2008 Conference Sponsorship**
The Board considered a memorandum from Deb Morton, Executive Director, dated May 20, 2008 providing the Board with a request from the Canadian Association of Police Boards to support the CAPB 19th Annual Meeting and Conference scheduled for August 14-17, 2008 in Toronto, Ontario.

Moved by: B. Smeaton
Seconded by: D. Martin

That the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Special Fund to the Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) in support of its 2008 Annual Meeting and Conference.

Carried.

Member Woodhouse requested that he be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

114. **Funding Request – 2008 Canadian American Law Enforcement Association (CALEO) Conference**

The Board considered Service report dated May 29, 2008 requesting a donation assist the 2008 Canadian American Law Enforcement Association (CALEO) Conference to be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, this month. *Prior Board authorization has been obtained for the funding.*

Moved by: B. Bentley
Seconded by: D. Martin

That the information be received;

And further, that the Board confirm funding in the amount of \$250.00 from the Special Fund to the Canadian American Law Enforcement Association (CALEO) Conference.

Carried.

Member Woodhouse requested that he be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

115. **Donation from the Special Fund – 2008 ‘Bic-Lite’ Charity Golf Tournament**

The Board considered a memorandum dated May 1, 2008 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, providing the Board with a copy of a letter dated April 21, 2008 from Staff Sergeant Mark Lightfoot, Niagara Regional Police Service, requesting a donation to the Annual ‘Bic-Lite’ Charity Golf Tournament. *Prior Board authorization has been obtained for the funding.*

Moved by: L. Tufford
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the information be received;

And further, that the Board confirm a donation in the amount of \$300.00 from the Special Fund to the Niagara Regional Police Association (Bic-Lite) Charity Golf Tournament.

Carried.

Member Woodhouse requested that he be recorded as opposed to the aforementioned motion.

116. **Police Services Board By-laws – Policy Compliance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act***

The Board considered a memorandum dated May 2, 2008 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, providing the Board with a revised ‘draft’ by-law as required for compliance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act* and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services Policing Standards manual.

Moved by: B. Smeaton
Seconded by: B. Bentley

That the item be deferred.

Carried.

IN CAMERA REPORTS

C. Employee Benefits Consulting - Agent of Record

69.

2008

At the Confidential Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board held on Thursday, April 17, 2008, the Board considered Service report C.81/2008 dated April 7, 2008 requesting the Board approve NRPS Human Resources recommendation to retain Mosey and Mosey as the Agent of Record as the NRPS Benefits Consultants for a four-year term commencing June 1, 2008.

The following Motion was duly passed:

“That the Board approve the appointment of Mosey and Mosey as Agent of Record – Benefits Consultant for the Niagara Regional Police Service at a cost of \$24,000 per year commencing June 1, 2008 for a four-year term;

And further, that the Board’s decision be reported back on the Public Agenda.

Carried.

The Board requested annual reports from the Chief that provide a review on benefit consulting services received during the preceding 12 months.

The following Motion was duly passed:

Moved by:	D. Martin
Seconded by:	L. Tufford

That the information be received.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Chairperson

Executive Director