

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Abbotsford Police Board

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 8:45 AM

UFV (Clearbrook Campus) Room L131 32355 Veterans Way, Abbotsford, and Video Conference*

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ross Siemens, Chair
Gordon Holloway, Vice-Chair
Mandy Padda
Paula Olmstead
Amar Rai
Shannon Charney

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM & STAFF PRESENT:

Chief Constable Colin Watson
Deputy Chief Constable Jason Burrows – Administration
Deputy Chief Constable Dan Culbertson – Operations
Director Bea Nicolato – Finance & Budget Branch
Director Adrienne Alford – Human Resources Branch

REGRETS:

Amrik Narang

GUEST(S):

Aird Flavelle*

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Shyanne Bergen

The meeting was called to order at 8:47 AM.

1. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

2. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the consent agenda be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

- (a) Minutes from previous meeting – September 30, 2024 – REVISED
- (b) Minutes from previous meeting – October 30, 2024
- (c) Crime Overview Report – October 2024
- (d) Media Report – October 21 to November 12, 2024
- (e) Policies
 - (i) Third Party Report – Sexual Assault – 2023 Audit
 - (ii) I.F.066 Computer System Usage – REVISED

3. Business Arising Out of Previous Minutes

None.

4. Board Correspondence – CAPG Sponsorship Opportunity

Brief discussion about sponsoring events across the country and preference to sponsor if it was more local and if the Board was attending.

It was moved and seconded that the Abbotsford Police Board decline the sponsorship opportunity. The motion was **adopted**.

Ms. Olmstead entered the meeting.

5. BCAPB

Nothing.

6. Chief's Report

Chief Watson, DCC Burrows, and DCC Culbertson reported on the following:

Paul Tinsley Scholarship – Reported on the background of the scholarship, and advised that if any applications are received, DCC Burrows will reach out to the Board for committee members.

New Operational Support Officers – 6 new OSOs were sworn in last week, and we are now over-strength. It was advised that there are expectations that we will lose some to the recruit stream and others to other agencies.

Recent recruit graduation – We have four (4) recruits who recently graduated. Colton Wiens, one of our recruits, was recognized for proficiency in firearm training.

Upcoming Swearing Ins – There are a few upcoming swearing-in on January 9, May 1, and September 4, and Outlook invites, and the SharePoint page has been updated accordingly.

Sentencing Hearing Results (Incident involving Cst. Aaron Courtney) – Reported on the background and the results of the recent sentencing hearing. Mr. Kirupakaran was sentenced to 5 years with a 7-year driving prohibition, which will start once he has been released. Cst. Courtney continues to support the AbbyPD but was unable to continue as a dog handler due to this incident.

Protest update (Nov 17) – Reported on the background and advised of the significant police presence at the protest at the temple by both AbbyPD and the RCMP, which was managed well and did not have significant incidents.

Operation Red Nose launch – This year it is being operated by ARJAA and supported by the AbbyPD.

Abbotsford Police Foundation – Recently received a nomination for business excellence, but did not win the award. The nomination alone was a tremendous honour for the APF and they will continue to work on building their size and impact.

Remembrance Day – Given the ongoing construction and encampment near the cenotaph the ceremony was not able to accommodate large crowds or to proceed as historically done. The City worked closely with the Legion to navigate the challenges. The event was well attended in person at Rotary Stadium and online, as well as a separate event at Mount Lehman.

Vital Signs Lunch – On November 5 the Chief attended the lunch and was one of 4 panelists. Will continue to work with the Abbotsford Chambers on future events.

John Davidson Memorial – The City granted the request to open the fences to allow AbbyPD members to pay tribute to Cst. Davidson on the 7-year anniversary of his murder. Chief Watson wanted to thank the City for doing so.

Encampment – AbbyPD supported bylaw services yesterday to do some enforcement in the encampment for individuals who joined the camp after the court decision. It was a long but successful process.

7. Standing Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Director Nicolato advised that the monthly reporting was not included in the agenda package due to the movement of the Board meeting.

Governance & Policy Committee – Ms. Olmstead advised there was nothing to report at this time.

Human Resources Committee – Mr. Rai advised there was nothing to report at this time.

8. Other Business

None raised.

9. Questions from the public relating to today's Agenda

None raised.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 AM.

“Original Signed”

Chair – Ross Siemens

“Original Signed”

Recording Secretary – Shyanne Bergen