



Minutes of the **OPEN MEETING** of the **CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES POLICE SERVICES BOARD** held on **January 19th 2023**

MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES POLICE SERVICES BOARD PRESENT

Mrs. V. Barkey
Mr. D. Blackburn
Mr. D. Elmslie
Ms. W. Percival
Mr. E. Smeaton
Mrs. C. English
Ms. K. Chiasson

MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE SERVICE PRESENT

Chief M. Mitchell
Insp. T. Hickey
Insp. K. Robertson

CALL TO ORDER

Chief Mitchell called the Open meeting of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board to order at 0930 hours.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Thereafter a quorum was confirmed.

Chief Mitchell noted that as per the Comprehensive Police Services Act, Part III, Sections 28 (1) and (2), the annual election of a Chair and Vice Chair of the Police Services Board takes place at the January meeting. He therefore asked for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board for the year 2023.

MOVED BY: Mr. Blackburn, SECONDED BY: Mrs. Barkey

Resolved that Ms. Wanda Percival serve as Chairperson of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board for the year 2023. **CARRIED**

There being no further nominations for the position, Ms. Percival was acclaimed as Chairperson.

Ms. Percival assumed the Chair and asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board for the year 2023.

MOVED BY: Mr. Elmslie

Resolved that Mr. D. Blackburn serve as Vice-Chairperson of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board for the year 2023. **No seconder, motion failed**

MOVED BY: Mr. Smeaton, SECONDED BY: Ms. Percival
Resolved that Mrs. V. Barkey serve as Vice-Chairperson of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board for the year 2023. **CARRIED**

There being no further nominations for the position, Mrs. Barkey was acclaimed Vice Chairperson.

Ms. Percival assumed the Chair and thanked Board members for their support. Prior to continuing the meeting, she asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of OPP Officer Greg Pierschala who was killed in the line of duty near Hagersville, Ontario on December 27th, 2022.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed and was approved on motion of Mr. Elmslie, seconded by Mrs. Barkey.

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS:

There were no Presentations/Deputations in the Open Meeting

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Copies of the minutes of the (Open)Meeting of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board held on December 15th, 2022 were previously circulated. It was

MOVED BY: Mr. Blackburn, SECONDED BY: Mrs. Barkey

Resolved that the minutes of the Open Meeting of the City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board, December 15th, 2022 be adopted as printed and circulated. **CARRIED**

2. STATISTICAL REPORTS – December 2022

Copies of the Statistical Report for the Municipal Police Service for December 2022 were provided (copy attached to official minutes). Chief Mitchell provided a brief overview, noting that the number of incidents had declined somewhat from 2021, and were more reflective of historical (pre-COVID) trends.

MOVED BY: Mrs. Barkey, SECONDED BY: Mr. Smeaton

Resolved that the Municipal Police Services Statistical Report for December 2022 and 2022 in its entirety be received. **CARRIED**

3. ACCOUNTS TO BE APPROVED AS PAID

Copies of the *Municipal Police Services Accounts* to be approved as paid for the period December 2022 were previously distributed (copy attached to official minutes).

MOVED BY: Mrs. Barkey, SECONDED BY: Mr. Smeaton

Resolved that the Municipal Police Services Accounts for the period December 2022 be approved as paid. **CARRIED**

4. CONSENT AGENDA

There were not items on the Consent Agenda.

5. OLD BUSINESS/STANDING ITEMS

5.1 OAPSB/Zone 3 Update – There was no update from the OAPSB.

5.1.1 Zone 3 – Copies of an email from Dan Besso, OAPSB Director Zone 3, were previously provided (copy attached to official minutes). It was confirmed that the email had been sent to all Zone 3 Police Board chairs, asking for help in finding an individual to take on the role of Chair of Zone 3. Ms. Percival confirmed the email was being provided for information purposes only, and did not require any action at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Board Per Diem and Expense Rates – Copies of a document entitled “Board Remuneration” were previously provided (copy attached to official minutes). Ms. Percival noted the Board’s Procedural Bylaw requires annual review of these rates and confirmed that the remuneration rates indicated in the report were included in the 2023 budget. It was confirmed that members of Council do not receive this remuneration.

MOVED BY: Mr. Elmslie, SECONDED BY: Mr. Smeaton

Resolved that the per diem rates remain as in the previous year. **CARRIED**

7. REPORT OF THE CHIEF

7.1 Report PSB 2023-001 – 2022 Use of Force Reports Summary – Copies of Report PSB 2023-001, *2022 Use of Force Reports*, were previously provided. Insp. Hickey provided a brief overview, noting that for the year 2022, noting that all police officers are required to submit a “Use of Force” Report, when a member draws a handgun; discharges a firearm; when a weapon other than a firearm is used on a member of the public; or when any force is used that results in an injury that requires medical attention. He briefly reviewed the information contained within the report, advising that during 2022, a total of thirteen reports were submitted by KLPS officers, involving a total of seventeen force options (two reports involved more than one force option being utilized). Every deployment of a use of force option was accompanied by the officer(s)’ use of verbal interaction. Over the past 9 years, the use of force report submissions reflect a slight

downward trend. Special note was made of the fact that in 2022 officers responded to 407 mental health-related calls. Of those 407 interactions, officers did not once use force which would necessitate the filing of a use of force report. In 2022, all incidents where a handgun was drawn or pointed at another person, except one, involved the belief that a firearm was involved.

Board members expressed appreciation for the comprehensive report.

MOVED BY: Mr. Blackburn, SECONDED BY: Mr. Elmslie

Resolved that Report PSB 2023-001, 2022 Use of Force Reports Summary be received.

CARRIED

7.2 PSB 2023-002 – Media Police – Naming Accused Persons – Copies of PSB Report 2023-002, *Media Policy*, were previously provided (copy attached to official minutes). Chief Mitchell provided an overview, noting the report deals with the matter of releasing information when a person is charged with a criminal offense. This can include the person's name. He confirmed that several Ontario police agencies have implemented a policy where they no longer release the name of an accused person, unless there is an investigative need or a legitimate public interest. He confirmed that the Kawartha Lakes Police Service is currently developing a similar policy, i.e. that would see the name of an accused person released only when there is an investigative need or legitimate public interest. He noted that while this is an operational matter, it is a change in policy and service delivery and therefore thought to be a subject for discussion with the Board.

Discussion followed related to the need for police agencies to be open and transparent with the public, which would favour a Service releasing as much information as allowed by law. It was noted however, that this must be balanced against the impact of unnecessarily stigmatizing and publicly shaming individuals who are charged with less serious offences. It was confirmed that the names of those accused are matters of public record, and the media and individuals can obtain this information through the courts. Also noted were the availability and longevity of information shared on social media as opposed to in print media.

Following further discussion during which it was noted this is a matter of balancing different priorities, Board members were supportive of the proposed changes.

MOVED BY: Mr. Elmslie, SECONDED BY: Mr. Blackburn

Resolved that Report PSB 2023-002, Media Policy, be received, and the recommendation contained therein, that the Board support the change in policy as outlined in the report, be approved.

CARRIED

7.3 2022 PSB 2023-003 – 2022 Public Complaints Against Police Report – Copies of PSB 2023-003, *Public Complaints Against Police Report*, were previously provided (copy attached to official minutes). Insp. Robertson provided an overview, noting that Adequacy Standards Regulations Section 31 requires the preparation of an annual report for the Board relating to public complaints. As indicated in the report, the Office of the Independent Police Review Director received a total of 14 public complaints during 2022. Eight of these complaints were screened out by the OIPRD, one complaint deemed unsubstantiated was resolved informally with the involved officers, and one complaint received late in the year is still under investigation.

It was noted the number of complaints against officers is relatively low, particularly when considering the number of incidents the Service deals with on an annual basis, e.g. in 2022 there were more than 14,000 incidents.

MOVED BY: Mrs. Barkey, SECONDED BY: Mr. Blackburn

Resolved that Report PSB 2023-003, 2022 Public Complaints Against Police, be received.

CARRIED

7.4 Health IM 2022 Mental Health Calls Report – Copies of the Mental Health Calls Report were previously provided (copy attached to official minutes). Chief Mitchell provided an overview, confirmed that as noted in the summary, there were 407 mental health related calls, a 20% reduction from 2021. The report also notes 209 individuals with MH presentations, calls per month ranging from 16 to 56, and average wait time spent by an officer at the hospital remained at approximately 50 minutes. While the number of people whose condition was serious enough to require a hospital visit was comparable to 2021, a reduction was seen in mental health interactions with people who did not require a trip to the hospital. Chief Mitchell attributed this in part to the proactive work down by the Community Response Unit.

Board members expressed appreciation for the informative report, and noted the good work being done by the CRU and its community partners.

MOVED BY: Mr. Blackburn, SECONDED BY: Mr. Elmslie

Resolved that the Health IM 2022 Mental Health Calls Report be received. **CARRIED**

7.5 Chief's Verbal Report – Chief Mitchell presented a brief verbal report on a number of matters, including:

(1) A presentation related to the Missing Child Alert System was provided to Kawartha Lakes Council on January 10 with very positive feedback. It is hoped a formal motion supporting the use of the Missing Children Society of Canada (MCSC) rescue app will be made at the January 31st Council meeting.

- (2) The Service has received its RIDE Grant for fiscal *years* 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- (3) The grant application for NG911 transition funding has been completed and submitted.
- (4) An internal survey is underway, looking to solicit feedback from staff for opportunities to improve the workplace.

Board members thanked Chief Mitchell for his updates and it was
MOVED BY: Mrs. Barkey, SECONDED BY: Mr. Smeaton
Resolved that the Chief's Verbal Report be received.

CARRIED

8. **QUESTION PERIOD** – There were no questions in the open meeting.

9. **MOTION TO MOVE INTO IN-CAMERA SESSION**

MOVED BY: Mr. Blackburn, SECONDED BY: Mr. Elmslie

*Resolved that the Board adjourn the public portion of its meeting to move IN
CAMERA to discuss confidential items pertaining to legal and personnel matters, in
accordance with Section 3594) of the Police Services Act.*

CARRIED

10. **REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING** – There was not Report from the Closed meeting.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY: Mrs. Barkey, SECONDED BY: Mr. Blackburn
Resolved that the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 hours.

READ AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023

CHAIRPERSON,
City of Kawartha Lakes Police Services Board