



Minutes

Police Services Board

Township of the North Shore

Thursday, January 26th 2023

6 p.m.

Electronic Meeting

This meeting is being held in a Hybrid setting. Attendees may choose to attend via ZOOM or in person in the Municipal Office Council Chambers located at 1385 Highway 17, Algoma Mills.

ATTENDANCE

Chair	Councillor Mike Roach
Member	Heather Pelky
Staff:	Clerk/Board Secretary Rachel Schneider
OPP:	Inspector/Commander Tyler Sturgeon Staff Sergeant/Operations Manager Rob Walsh Acting Staff Sergeant Sault Ste Marie Lori Graham

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None were declared.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Moved by: H. Pelky

Seconded by: M. Roach

RESOLVED that the Police Services Board agenda be approved as presented

“CARRIED”

MINUTES

Moved by: H. Pelky

Seconded by: M. Roach

RESOLVED that the minutes of the November 14th, 2022 Police Services Board meeting be approved as circulated.

“CARRIED”

CORRESPONDENCE

OPP Calls for Service and Billing Summary Reports – October, November and December 2022 and Police Service Board Integrated Court Offense Network Report –September, October, and November 2022

REPORTING/INFORMATION

- a) The Ontario Provincial Police staff introduced themselves. Tyler Sturgeon explained he will be speaking of the most recent reports during meetings – this meeting being the December 2022 reports. The reports are based on the most serious violations and the Township is billed on the most serious violations. If there are multiple charges, as there are usually multiple charges per call, the Township is only single billed. The OPP billing model is based per household, from MPAC, which covers the base cost for Policing. Calls for service are added on top of this. The time standard on the reports shows the average time to investigate crime despite actual hours (eg. If hours go over the average, it will still remain at the average hours shown) which provides consistency.

The report for December 2022 was read over and it was explained that the Township had a good year overall:

- Violent crime is down 63%
- Calls for service were low and down by 22%
- Property crime is down 16%
- “Other” section down 15%
- Statutes and acts – same, relatively flat
- Operational is down
- Operational 2 (false alarms, 911 pocket dials or hang ups) is down by 36%
- Traffic is down 33% in weighted and billable hours

An update on the Victim Liaison Officer was given (this was originally brought to the Police Service Board meeting of November 14th 2022 – the job posting is now closed and they are still selecting a candidate. It will be a 12-month project that is victim centred.

The Festive Ride Program has finished – there were 253 ride checks completed:

- 8 impaired
- 5 over 80/refusal to blow
- 2 warnings given

The OPP are starting to see Pre-Pandemic numbers for traffic:

- December 2022 up 98% since December 2021
- January 2023 up 35% for traffic stops

There is a new Sergeant hired and 2 detectives. 90% of officers available for front line availability.

Communication Efficiency Bureau – it is a 911 diversion program. A sergeant assesses calls to see if there is an emergency or if it is just a pocket dial. The Front Line Support Unit, which is made up of officers who are injured or unable to work directly on the front line, respond via telephone instead of in person. There were 101000 reports in 2022 and it saved an estimated 152000 man hours.

Crisis Call Diversion – a social worker in the communications centre to receive crisis calls. They assess the situation and refer to other providers if not an emergency or to the OPP in an emergency situation. 31% of crisis calls were diverted to crisis resources in 2022. This saved 2642 man hours.

Online Reporting – At the November 14th PSB meeting, it was discussed about online reporting and the importance of reporting non-urgent incidents. The OPP patrol based on analytics so it is important people complain. There were infographics shared with the Township that were posted online after the Nov 14th meeting. There has been a low uptake lately for this reporting, with only 4556 reports made online for 2022 in the whole province of Ontario.

Automated Reporting System – this is a computer system that pulls information from dispatch information to save officers time – 424536 tasks/calls for service have been recorded this way. 32000 man hours have been saved with this reporting system

The chair of the PSB asked about the integrated court offense network and if Covid is the reason for the increase in court cases – Tyler Sturgeon explained that this information received is from the courts, which include Blind River, Huron Shores, our Township and Spanish. He also explained that there was a 20%-30% reduction in calls for service, which has skewed the 5 year average, and that 2021 showed it was returning to a “normal” year for calls. Tyler also explained that one call for service may result in multiple reasons to go to court.

Serpent River Speed Control – the 5-year average shows a decrease in complaints. There was a 100% decrease in complaint calls for Serpent River, with 0 complaint calls in 2022. There was a 42% increase in proactive calls for service, with the most common proactive call being speeding.

Tyler Sturgeon explained there are 3 divisions/detachments in Algoma – Wawa, Sault Ste Marie, and East Algoma (Thessalon, Blind River and Elliot Lake.

The Chair of the meeting asked the OPP what time other boards hold their meetings at and proposed a time change. After a brief discussion, the following resolution was passed:

Move By: H. Pelky

Seconded By: M. Roach

RESOLVED: THAT the meeting time of the remaining 2022-2026 Police Services Board meetings be changed to 4pm.

“CARRIED”

ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: H. Pelky

Seconded By: M. Roach

RESOLVED: That the next regular meeting of the Police Services Board be held on April 27th, 2023, at 4 p.m. or at the call of the Chair and that the meeting be adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

“CARRIED”

Mike Roach, Chair

Rachel Schneider, Clerk/Board Secretary