



Kenora Police Services Board Regular Meeting Minutes

**Friday, January 24, 2020
9:00 a.m.**

Kenora City Hall Council Chambers

Present: S. Dias, Board Chair D. Reynard, Member
A. Poirier, Member H. Pihulak, Board Secretary
J. Duggan, OPP D/C A. Illman, OPP
J. Neild, OPP T. Thomson, OPP

Present Via Teleconference (not counted for voting or quorum):
W. Van Belleghem, Vice-Chair D. Canfield, Member

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest
There were none declared.

Approval of the Agenda – Resolution #1
Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by D. Reynard & Carried:-

That the agenda of the Regular Kenora Police Services Board for the January 24, 2020 meeting be hereby approved as presented.

Presentations/Delegations

Chad Gropp

Chad Gropp present with the backing of over 30 local businesses. They are concerned like everybody else in our city about the explosion of recent drug related problems. The impact of it causes huge a strain in the business community social and health system.

This past year was the breaking point. Many of the businesses cannot carry on again if this upcoming year repeats itself. The added cost of simple staff and business protection cost us over \$180,000 from May to October, for over 30 local businesses. This includes, security cameras, security bars on doors, vandalism, theft, break and enters, insurance costs and of course the extra staff to make sure there are now always 2 staff on at all times.

They are here today to ask for more help from the OPP and the City to make our city safer for all. We business owners would like to see:

- 1- More constant daily foot patrols to help with the violence, drug trafficking and sex trade.
- 2- More cameras in the down town core on known trafficking/selling spots will help.
- 3- Set up an outreach program of workers to walk the streets as well to help with known people who cause problems of violence, or trips. Also to check in with businesses every so often to make sure the people are not causing problems, and if they do, the workers can assist before the OPP get involved.
- 4- Have the foot patrol officers pop into the businesses and make an appearance every so often, even if it's just to say hello and check to see if things are ok for that day.

5- Set up an all-inclusive health, mental health, social justice and welfare building that these people feel safe going to, and can get all the needed help, resources life skills and security that they need. So they don't not fall out of the system that set them free. Be it, group homes, foster care, drug treatment centers, jail, shelters etc.

After making a deputation in November to the City, they took their concerns to the Chamber. To which after some meetings and surveys, have written to our MP and MPP. These have been passed onto the proper Ministers, requesting more funding for our region to help with costs for City's burdened with the crime / drug situation.

They feel that conversations with us actual business owners can help assist with this situation, and hope that their voices can be listened to, and their input can be valuable.

Detachment Commander Duggan thanked the delegation and indicates that his command staff continually review and discuss the needs downtown. They have plans for the summer of which he cannot speak to as they are attached to funding. The City has approved additional cameras which will assist with the investigations and goes a long way to solve crimes. The Community Justice Centre is still on the table for Kenora and plans are still underway to make that happen. There are three in the province, Toronto, London and Kenora. Toronto and London are focused on guns and gangs, and Kenora is focused on mental health, social justice and as far as timelines hoping by end of year but need to wait for the government officials to move the project forward. OPP does hear the voice loud and clear and it is something that they are planning for. Looking at targeted enforcement plan the officers will be assigned to do certain things. Currently the OPP respond to calls as they come in and no calls sit in queue but we are looking at changing that where non urgent calls are held and in a queue to respond when time permits. We have online reporting which means less calls for service. If it is something that can be reported online we are encouraging them to do so. This is a new generation of policing and is before the government for consideration. We have put a proposal forward for a new direction in policing and police need to be more focused on criminal activities. Social workers need to respond to social needs. It will be the first in Ontario to run like that and it is leading edge and hopes that it moves forward as it will make a difference in the City. Been to meetings with the BIZ and the Chamber and trying to get that communication out through those means. Jeff would like to see the businesses coming together in one group to meet where Jeff has no problem presenting and speaking but prefer one group as it is very time consuming.

There will be a new outreach team will be starting in the summer. They are also looking at a summer student program. For the first time in 20 years Kenora now has a full complement of staff which is going to be very beneficial to the community as it has been tough serving the community with the large staff shortages they have experienced over the years.

The new safe bed program will assist with the policing as well as it is an option for officers otherwise the only option is the hospital.

There is supports in place now with the shelter and we are aware we don't want to have another summer like last summer and feel we have addressed a lot of the issues that lead to that situation.

Mayor Reynard referenced the many cameras we have in place and how the City does support the situation. We are advocating for Kenora to the Ministers and working with partners to address the opioid crisis we are facing. This government appears to be acutely aware of what is happening in Northwestern Ontario and they are listening to the needs under mental health and addictions. There are some interesting proposals that could benefit our community and believe we could see some positive information. These things take time and we are developing these plans to address what takes place.

It was suggested that we report to the citizens on what we are doing. Could be a community input flyer, or newspaper ad, and an annual public meeting. We would like to hold that public meeting prior to summer.

S. Dias, Board Chair thanked the delegation for their attendance.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) – Resolution #2

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Kenora Police Services Board held November 28, 2019, and the Special Kenora Police Services Board meeting held December 3, 2019 be confirmed as written and circulated.

Business Arising from Minutes (Outstanding Items)

Primary causal factors in fatal motor vehicle collisions – reporting zero

It is still the case and the report will be changed and will be addressed. This can keep on the agenda until it is cleared up.

Strategic Plan – Development Plans

Heather spoke with Stace Gander, our Community Services Manager and he will work with the Board to develop an initial strategic plan for the Board.

D/C Performance Review

Sara and Heather will develop a template and bring that forward for the Board.

OPP Response to 9-1-1 calls

9-1-1 pocket dials are a huge strain on OPP resources. If they are clearly a pocket dial or a malfunction of some sort, we are not responding to those calls at all. They are streaming those right out of the response to the officers. Seeing a lot less of them already. Those calls are calls that the municipality had to pay for with calls for service will reduce those calls for service now. The calls for service from the Kenora District Jail are now being cleared differently and if no officer attendance is required we should see those calls for service go down there too. Our calls are based on average so if those are not retro it won't be reflected and our hope is that it will be reimbursed. Going forward it will make a difference.

Receipt of Correspondence – Resolution #3

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That the following correspondence be hereby received by the Kenora Police Services Board:-

- December 1 – S. Dias – Risk Forum Information
- December 12 – MCSS – 2021-2022 CSP Grant Announcement
- December 12 – D. Bruyere – D/C Performance Review Templates
- January 2 – H. Pihulak – OPP 2018 Annual Report
- January 15 – AMO Communications – PSB Consultation
- January 20 – OAPSB – Development of New Regs update

New Business

Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Police Services Board Chair, S. Dias was nominated and accepted the nomination as Board Chair. S. Dias was acclaimed as the Board Chair for 2020.

Nominations were called for the position of Police Services Board Vice Chair, A. Poirier was nominated and accepted the nomination as Vice Chair. A. Poirier was acclaimed as the Vice Chair for 2020.

Annual Billing Statement – Contract

The billing statement contract has been returned as approved by Council in December 2019. A copy has been provided to the Board.

Roundtable Session –February 12, 2020

Sara and Heather will attend the roundtable session at the Kenora Recreation Centre February 12, 2020. If anyone else can attend, please contact Heather to register.

Items to Review/Plan for 2020

➤ PSB Annual Report to Council

There has not been a report to Council from the Board in the past so working towards the presentation in March or April.

➤ Reports from the D/C – timing/format

Part of the reporting is to submit the report in advance and provide your highlights and not detailed review through the entire report. We get quite detailed reporting and so it provides a detailed review of what has happened. Instead of going through each line item only need to highlight things that need attention rather than going through detail. Reducing time during the meetings to just highlight what should be brought to the Boards attention.

- Monitor the delivery of police services to ensure Regulation 3/99 are satisfied on an ongoing basis – format
- Prepare a business plan at least once every three years
- D/C shall prepare an annual report for the board relating to the activities of the police force during the previous fiscal year, including information on its performance objectives, indicators and results; Public complaints; and the actual cost of police services.

D/C Duggan noted that if we are looking at stats and want to reference those for the presentation we would be looking at March for an annual report.

Detachment Commander's Report – Resolution #4

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That the Kenora Police Services Board hereby accepts the Kenora OPP November and December 2019 monthly reports as presented.

Highlighted the significant increases in some of the areas – robberies are up for November. There is not a whole lot of increases for November or December elsewhere. A lot of our stats are equal for 2018 and 2019. Robberies are up from 0 to 5. All five robberies are cleared by charge. The victim offender relationship the victim and the offender knew each other. A lot of our victims and offenders are known and the video surveillance are known to each other.

A significant amount of the theft unders are known. Clearance rates for violent crime are 70%. Property crime clearance rate of 40% is very good as well.

The robbery for December was cleared by charge. Our robberies for the past three years are 15 or 16 so we are not seeing a change in robberies.

Violent crime clearance rate 93.1% clearance rate is extremely high and strive for this.

Criminal code non traffic overall the number of charges people laying is 177 over 152 anticipate these going down with the Restorative Justice program. Hopefully we will see that number go down and looking forward to this program in Kenora.

General patrol and foot patrol hours looking at increasing those in the summer. 63 in November 70.25 hours in December.

From a staffing perspective, Adam Illman has been appointed as the permanent staff sergeant of operations. Jim Neild will be the new permanent HR sergeant and they will be advertising a new sergeant position. Theresa Thomson will be the new permanent operations administrative role looking after the office.

Mayor Reynard questioned the foot patrol hours and how it ties into the deputation. When on patrol are they just walking around or do they stop into businesses. D/C Duggan expressed that they should be going into businesses and they do that, the community contact is not captured, just the patrol hours. It is important to businesses so they see the officers. They are in the library a lot and we do see a high volume of unwanted persons in the facility. That area is regularly visited due to the ongoing problems.

Calls for service data was provided and reviewed by the Board.

Next Meeting Date

- February 27, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m. – City Hall Council Chambers

March date will need to be changed as Board Chair Sara Dias cannot make the set date. Meeting date will be amended to March 31st @ 9 a.m.

Adjourn to Closed Session – Resolution #5

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That in accordance with Subsection 35(4) of the Police Services Act, authorization is now given for the Police Services Board to adjourn to a closed session at 10:25 a.m. under section:

(b) Intimate financial or personal matters (2 items)

Reconvene to Open Session

The Board reconvened to an open session at 10:54 a.m. with no reports from its closed session.

Adjournment – Resolution #6

Moved by A. Poirier, Seconded by D. Reynard & Carried:-

That the Regular Kenora Police Services Board meeting be hereby adjourned at 10:54 a.m.