



**MINUTES – OPEN SESSION MEETING – CPSB MARCH 3, 2022
CORNWALL CIVIC COMPLEX SALON ‘B’ or ZOOM @ 9:30 AM**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Present:

Elaine MacDonald	Chair
Michel Payette	Vice-Chair
Glen Grant	Director
William Beattie	Director
Shawna Spowart	Chief of Police
Vincent Foy	Deputy Chief
Jennifer Keays -	Secretary

Regrets: Martha Woods Director

Call to order: 9:32

Acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territory of the Mohawk of Akwesasne

Conflict of Interest: None declared

1. Adoption of the Open Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022.

Moved by: Mike Payette
Seconded by: Bill Beattie

That the minutes from the Open Meeting on February 3, 2022 be approved. All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

Business & Correspondence:

2. Introduction/welcome of new police services advisor

Acknowledge and welcome Graham Wight.

3. Traffic safety plan presentation

Constable Patrick Depratto presented the traffic unit results and plans.

Main areas of responsibility on traffic unit are to investigate serious motor vehicle collisions, such as those that involve injuries or fatalities, and to investigate more serious impaired driving cases, such as those involving alcohol or drugs. Other activities include field coordination of intoxilyzer, maintenance of training for breath technicians who test individuals for intoxication, training and maintenance of speed measuring devices, coordinating programs and initiatives including RIDE, and investigating school bus complaints and public complaints.

Main equipment used include radar for measuring speed, lidar for measuring speed, and spectre for detecting radar detectors, which are illegal in Ontario but can be purchased online to warn drivers about radar speed detection.

In 2021, there was a 3.2% reduction in overall collisions compared to 2020, but both years were unusual due to lockdowns, which resulted in fewer cars on the road and less traffic. Cst. Depratto presented detailed statistics about collisions, including low- and high-collision days, months, and intersections, as well as collisions that involved failure to remain, pedestrians, and substances (drugs or alcohol).

In 2022, the traffic unit plans different areas of focus in different parts of the year.

- January – off-road vehicles
- February – vision obstruction
- March – seatbelt safety enforcement
- May – sign violations, bicycle safety
- June – aggressive driving
- July – distracted driving
- August – speed enforcement
- September – school-related safety, such as school bus and school zones
- October – aggressive driving
- November – intersection safety
- December – impaired driving

Cst Depratto discussed aspects of the above areas of focus, including explanations of the issues and some statistics related to alcohol and impaired operation.

Question by Mike Payette about scooters, such as the program in Ottawa, but Cst. Depratto says that this has not presented a problem for the City of Cornwall so far. There are not many on the streets at this time, and operators must follow rules similar to an e-bike (must wear a helmet, cannot ride on a sidewalk).

Comment from Chief Spowart about funding from the Province of Ontario for automated license plate readers. Cst. Depratto explained that they are cameras mounted in the police vehicle that can scan license plates and, depending on the angle, they run the plates they scan through a database to verify that plates are attached to appropriate vehicle and confirm status of the vehicle and registered owner (e.g., registration and insurance are up-to-date, driver suspension or conditions, other

criminal matter related to registered owner). They are a great tool for traffic safety and law enforcement, so CPS will apply for this grant funding.

Concern expressed by Elaine MacDonald about distraction of the officer driving the vehicle; Cst. Depratto and Chief Spowart explained that the computer scans the plates and only alerts the driver if there is a red flag, but the driver can choose whether to attend to the alert. CPS is also looking at other tools, such as red light cameras at high-collision intersections, to ensure the safety of roads. Traffic safety is consistently a major concern for residents.

Discussion of fine structure depending on seriousness or extent of violation, such as 1 km over the posted limit vs 40 km over the limit, which can be considered stunt driving and carries penalties such as higher fines, vehicle impoundment. There are other factors besides just excessive speed that can be considered stunt driving.

Discussion of the assessment of whether a person is impaired, especially by drugs. Cst. Depratto is an impairment assessor and can use various tests to determine whether an individual is impaired and by what category of drug or substance.

Questions from Elaine MacDonald, Glen Grant, and Bill Beattie about local issues, such as off-road vehicles on a bike path near residences, noise from mufflers and other modifications to vehicles, and speeding on particular roads near residences. There are some tools to address these issues, including enforcement tactics, articles in the Highway Traffic Act covering noise and modifications, speed detectors and signs, and regulations regarding community safety zones. UCDSB plans to use photo enforcement on their school buses to identify offenders and assist CPS in enforcement.

4. CPS involvement in Freedom Convoy Protests

Chief Spowart suggested a discussion of the update from the Ministry.
Motion to add this item to the agenda as Number 10.

Moved by: Mike Payette
Seconded by: Bill Beattie

That the item #10, Communications, be added. All in favour.

CPS maintained a close watch on events as they unfolded in Ottawa and were acutely aware of the importance and risk presented by our border bridge. Watching Chief Sloly presenting information and updates, it was apparent that he would need help. Chief Spowart determined that CPS could provide assistance so, before the press conference ended, sent an email to Chief Sloly and offer assistance. He replied in the affirmative almost immediately.

Chief Spowart issued a call for volunteers and, as expected from our officers, received a robust response. From Monday, February 7 to February 13, CPS covered approximately 30 10-12 hour shifts, both days and nights, for a total of approximately 460 hours of work. The officers were primarily deployed outside of the main protest area. CPS and OPS entered into an MOU for complete cost recovery, and CPS officers were welcomed with warmth and appreciation by OPS officers.

On Saturday, February 12, a convoy of 15-20 farm tractors and an estimated 150-175 protestors attended the Cornwall Port of Entry at the intersection of Brookdale and Water St. with the intention of interrupting the flow of traffic with Akwesasne. With the support of the Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, the Canadian Border Services Agency, the Ministry of Transportation, and the City of Cornwall, CPS deployed several officers to manage the protest and ensure minimal impact to the flow of traffic. The officers who had been deployed to Ottawa were recalled and deployed to the efforts in Cornwall. By 17:30, the demonstrators had left the area, with the flow of traffic having been protected and no incident or injury. Since then, the CPS and OPP have maintained increase presence at the Port of Entry and in the surrounding regions to protect the infrastructure and access to vital services.

Chief Spowart, upon reflection, is very proud of the work and results of the CPS who maintained order and professionalism, responding Glen Grant attended the demonstration and was impressed with the professionalism of the CPS, which helped calm the protestors and ensure peace and order. On the Friday prior to the protest, a neighbour noticed suspicious activity and reported it, so this demonstrates that residents are watching and reporting, and support the CPS efforts. Mike Payette wishes to recognize the CPS who went above and beyond what is expected.

Motion to recognize all the CPS for their outstanding work during the protest.

Moved by: Mike Payette
Seconded by: Glen Grant

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

5. Recognition

In advance of the declaration of the state of emergency, on February 4, CPS reached out for volunteers to assist. Almost immediately, several officers volunteered to give up their time off, time with their families, to assist. It is important to note that CPS is

a small service so the impact is great when 22 of 92 officers volunteers. These officers conducted themselves very professionally and represented the CPS very well.

These officers deserve special recognition for going above and beyond the call of duty in recognition of this historic event. When one swears to be a CPS officer, one swears to protect residents of Cornwall

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Motion to recognize the 22 individual officers (named above) who volunteered to assist in the Freedom Convoy protest.

Moved by: Bill Beattie
Seconded by: Mike Payette

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

6. Collection of identifying information in certain circumstances prohibitions and duties annual reports

The title and the legislation are convoluted and difficult to interpret. Chief Spowart is bringing 3 reports forward, the Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances (CIICC) from 2019, 2020, and 2021. Going through the 2019 report in detail to familiarize the Board with the report will facilitate the review of 2020 and 2021, as they are similar. In 2019, there was a lot of news about 'street checks' and concern about the role of racial profiling, so the objective of the legislation is to ensure the rights of individuals are respected and no group is being targeted based on sex, age, ethnicity, geographical location, etc. The Chief of Police is required to report to the Board whether the service complies with the legislation and, if not, what steps will be taken to address any shortcomings.

As a Service, we have several staff members who act as verifiers; the lead verifier is our training officer, the verifier/auditor of the CIICC process is the quality assurance manager, and a number of other positions act between those two processes.

The Chief must establish demographic groups based on 2016 Census data to represent the community so as to compare this against the demographics of those who are stopped. In 2019, 1 CIICC was submitted. All reports were reviewed to see if they met the threshold for CIICC requirements or if information was gathered by observation or other lawful methods. The one observation was of an adult Caucasian male, aged 20-29, which is one of the highly-represented demographics in our community, who was stopped in Zone 1 (the downtown core with many businesses around). There were too few reports to determine a geographical issue. One recommendation, made by the auditor, was to provide refresher training, which was completed in September. The training does not include a confirmation test, but it is recorded. A report is generated when an officer requests a person's identity and

informs the individual that they are not required to provide answers. A report does not indicate that the officer did anything inappropriate or unlawful. If the individual takes issue, they can take their complaint to the OIPRD, which is an independent body that investigates the police.

In 2020, there were no CIICC reports filed, and CPS continued with refreshed training based on 2019 audit. The 2021 audit identified one situation in which an individual was asked for their identity and the CIICC process was not followed. The information received was not complaint, so it was immediately made inaccessible (i.e., hidden from any query of the systems). The officer was a recent graduate from Police College, so was counselled and received training. Based on this audit, decision was taken to complete full service training, and this will be completed every 3 years. Motion to accept the report as presented.

Moved by: Bill Beattie
Seconded by: Glen Grant

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

7. Missing Persons Act annual report

The *Missing Persons Act* (2018) came into force in 2019 and provides the authority that an officer may make an urgent demand to a person to produce copies of records if the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the records will help locate missing person **and** if the officer believes that the time taken to follow the usual route could put the person in harm's way or the records could be destroyed. The Chief of Police must report annually on any such demands by the Service. In 2021, the CPS was engaged in 97 distinct Missing Persons investigations and, on 14 of those occasions, resorted to use of urgent demands. On 14 occasions, CPS used media releases. CPS also used telecom data to triangulate the missing person's location. This report has been filed with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Motion to accept the report as presented.

Moved by: Glen Grant
Seconded by: Mike Payette

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Secondary activities annual report

The Chief of Police is required to report on secondary activities undertaken by off-duty members of the service. This is to ensure public trust and maintain community confidence. Members may not engage in any activities that may interfere or influence their duties with the service. Over the course of 2021, CPS received 9 applications and all were approved; 6 from sworn officers (1 for consulting, 5 for teaching) and 3 from civilians (1 for consulting, 2 for customer service). Motion to accept the report as presented.

Moved by: Mike Payette
Seconded by: Glen Grant

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

9. Special Constable appointment

Chief Spowart brings forward report and request Board support, following the approval of the Ministry of the Solicitor General, to appoint Cst. Gillian MacLean as a special constable to perform duties related to court and prisoner security.

Motion for the Board to approve the appointment.

Moved by: Glen Grant
Seconded by: Bill Beattie

All in favour.

MOTION CARRIED

10. Communication

Bill Beattie has been reassigned to the Board for an additional 6 months. Welcome back and congratulations.

11. Adjournment of Open Session

Moved by: Mike Payette
Seconded by: Glen Grant

That this meeting be adjourned (10:49 a.m.).

MOTION CARRIED

Elaine MacDonald, Chair

Jennifer Keays, Secretary