

**Board of Police Commissioners
 Approved Minutes
 March 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order	Chair Droy called the meeting to order at 10:03 am
2. Present	Don Droy (Chair), Mike Bernard (Vice-Chair), Mayor Boyer (10:12 am), Deputy Mayor Power, CAO Millett-Campbell, Police Chief Mark Kane, and Recording Secretary Krista Grear.
3. Regrets	
4. Additions to the Agenda	Corrections to dates noted
5. Approval of the Agenda	MOTION #BoPC202-03-09-01 It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the agenda as corrected. Motion carried.
Edits to the Minutes	None
6. Approval of the Minutes	MOTION #BoPC2022-03-09-02 It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the minutes of February 9, 2021. Motion carried.

9. PRESENTATIONS: None

9. PUBLIC INPUT: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- I. Chief's discussion on budget

Chief Kane noted that the department reviewed the budget and made the following revisions: reduced salary line by \$2000, reduced fuel line by \$1000, and reduced recruitment by \$500, resulting in a total proposed budget of \$441,223.09. It was further noted that should the need arise, proposals for future increases can be made to Council.

MOTION #BoPC2022-03-09-03

It was regularly moved and seconded to recommend to council to approve the Police Department budget of \$441,223.09 as amended for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. **Motion carried.**

Chief Kane shared that Officers are taking on the role of processing Triton record checks since the volunteer accepted employment, and that they wish him all the best in his new endeavours. He further noted that the company that provides Triton is in negotiations with the Province with the intent to obtain the ability/right to process vulnerable sector checks. If this gets approved it would result in additional revenue from the processing of these checks.

It was noted that the ARPD has a compliment of 5 staff, full and part time which has proven to be good functionally for the staff. Reducing this further is not recommended. It was also noted that the department has a number of firearms that are 20+ years old and will continue to explore options for cost effective replacement options for when the need arises.

II. The supply chain costs going forward for training ammo and the limited supply now

Chief Kane shared ARPD's difficulty in obtaining training ammo, and the rising costs of ammunition. He continues to have discussions with other Chief's to determine if there may be group/bundle or other options to ensure sufficient supply and affordability of supply. He noted that one supplier had indicated that it will be at least a year before they are able to start fulfilling current back orders.

III. Radios

Chief Kane share that the radios that the Province got from the RCMP are 18 years old and come June 2022 the ability to repair and replace these will end/stop. He inquired whether it would be feasible for ARPD to obtain a couple to keep on hand to use for future repair/replacement and discovered that this would result in the ARPD covering any repair costs, repairs of these radios are currently covered by province. Chief Kane also noted that ARPD is on the same radio channel with Kentville, with a potential cost savings if Kentville were to purchase the plugs for the vehicles (\$2000/each), ARPD may only need the radios.

IV. Ability to operate effectively over next 5years

All Police Chiefs have been requested to participate in the Mass Casualty Review (MCR). Chief Kane noted concerns about how the recommendations from the MCR could impact ARPD operations, from increased costs, new uniforms/equipment/etc. He further noted that it could affect the deal with province that outlines operational expectations, should any recommendations cause significant changes to the operating budget.

Chief Kane shared his discovery that in the last five years, Police Officers have spent \$17,000-\$18,000 out of their own pockets for equipment needed to operate, such as winter jackets (\$800/ea), uniforms, body armor, a computer in one of the vehicles. Going forward Chief Kane doesn't want officers to have to be paying out of pocket for the necessities of the job, noting that they may opt to purchase additional or specialty items, such as an extra sweater or t-shirt.

Chief Kane noted that the next five years are critical and will require careful monitoring, partnership developments, creativity and more to ensure continued success. CAO Millett-Campbell noted that the next five years are critical for all Town departments due to the eventual loss of NS Power grant in lieu of taxes.

Chief Kane expressed sincere thanks to Council, BoPC, CAO and Staff for all the support and effort made to ensure the needs of the Department are met, and as such, the needs of the community are met.

10. BUSINESS ARISING:

i. Update from Council

Mayor Boyer shared that Council met with Minister Lohr and noted that mental health, in the provincial budget, is based on \$1000/per capita. Mayor Boyer also noted that the government is reviewing the previous work of other governments in regard to housing and plans to reorganize the Housing Authority. It was noted that the second budget meeting was held on March 1, and that the

next one will be March 11. It was further noted that we do not yet have our Department of Justice Representative confirmed.

ii. Relocation of Police Department – Update

Things are happening! Chief Kane is tracking everything that has been ordered, regardless of whether an invoice has been received, to keep budget on track and that he has been coordinating with Victim services so that they can have a smooth transition to the space.

- New 1” pipe had to be run to meet current code requirements
- Town Hall will now have one electrical panel and therefore one bill (historically there were two due to the upper floor being a residence)
- Will be taking out the windows at the front due to internal rot and water damage – reusing one of the windows for a back office, allowing for more natural light. Second window will be used in the interior.
- Will be adding a new 36” door, all doors will be accessibility compliant
- Today contractors are doing concrete work for plumbing
- Ability to order materials directly from home hardware rather than through contractor provides some cost savings.
- Heritage application will be going out to council shortly

11. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

i. Chief's Reports

- Chief Kane provided highlights from his written report noting a few less calls over the last month, attending his usual meetings and an anti-racism/cyber hate seminar, and the establishment of training dates to be able to pre-plan and budget accordingly, as well as discussions with ammunition suppliers. Chief Kane also noted that there is an increase in time for Officers because of the increase in court packages/requests.
- It was noted that most traffic offenses come from county residents passing through the Town.
- Chief Kane also noted a major call received during the recent storm where three ARPD and EHS responded to a violent and seriously injured individual
- A brief discussion was held regarding the potential to have a covered parking spot at Public Works for one police vehicle so that it is ready to go as needed, even in storm conditions.

ii. Departmental Financials

- It was noted that the expense relating to the replacement of a strut on vehicle 432 was due to the manufacturer determining that it wasn't covered by warranty (\$660). There were also some expenses for new windshield wipers that were destroyed during the storms. The Police radio expense included was the one recently passed by Council for a new vehicle radio. It was also noted that there will be a training cost coming out, but it will be reimbursed by the Province. Chief Kane answered questions from Commissioners.

12. CORRESPONDENCE: None

13. IN CAMERA: Under Section Under Section 22(2) of the Municipal Government Act

MOTION #BoPC2022-03-09-04

It was regularly moved and seconded to move in camera at 11:22 am. **Motion carried.**

MOTION #BoPC2022-03-09-05

It was regularly moved and seconded to move out of camera at 11:23 am. **Motion carried.**

14. NEXT MEETING: April 20, 2022 @ 10:00 am

Brief discussion held. Chief Kane noted that he would likely not be available for the regularly scheduled meeting of April 13. Board discussed options and decided to meet the following week.

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #BoPC2022-02-09-06

It was regularly moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:28 am

Chair Droy

Recording Secretary Krista Grear