



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair
Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Wayne Mason
Commissioner Carlos Beals
Commissioner Carole McDougall
Commissioner Sylvia Parris

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Deputy Chief Robin McNeil, Halifax Regional Police
Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, HRM Legal Services
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Municipal Clerk
David Perusse, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:
www.halifax.ca*

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m., and the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 1:33 p.m. The Board reconvened to the public session at 2:36 p.m. and adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Presentation to Commissioner Steve Graham

In light of Commissioner Graham's term on the Board of Police Commissioners coming to an end, the Board took the opportunity to recognise Commissioner Graham and his contributions to the work of the Board over the course of his term. On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Commissioner Graham for his service and wished him all the best for the future.

Both Chief Jean-Michel Blais of the Halifax Regional Police, as well as Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman of the Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, presented Commissioner Graham with gifts on behalf of their respective organizations, and thanked Commissioner Graham for his service.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NONE

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

The agenda was accepted as presented.

4. PRESENTATION – CeaseFire Halifax Funding Proposal – Mel Lucas, Program Manager, CeaseFire Halifax, and Marcel Tellier, Executive, Board of Directors, Community Justice Society.

The following was before the Board:

- Presentation titled: "Sustainability Plan to Reduce Violence in Halifax," dated December 18, 2017.

Mel Lucas, Program Manager for CeaseFire Halifax, as well as Marcel Tellier of the Community Justice Society, presented an overview to the Board on the CeaseFire Halifax program. Mel Lucas explained that the mandate of the pilot program has been to reduce gun violence within the community by taking an Afrocentric focus with their target demographic being African Nova Scotian males between the ages of 16 and 24 years of age.

Lucas proceeded to outline the current funding dilemma being faced by CeaseFire Halifax, as well as the Community Justice Society who administers the program. The CeaseFire pilot was launched in 2014 using Federal funding. However, this funding is set to expire at the conclusion of 2017. The CeaseFire program has been able to secure transitional support from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice in the form of bridge funding for the program until March 31, 2018. In order to ensure the continuation of the program past this deadline, representatives from CeaseFire and the Community Justice Society have been developing a long-term funding strategy, as well as seeking a consortium of partners to secure funding for the program for the next three years.

Mel Lucas concluded the presentation by providing an overview of a proposed sustainability solution, outlining the core objectives and deliverables of the CeaseFire Halifax program should it be able to secure funding for three years of continued operation.

Responding to questions from the Board, Lucas further explained that the initial budget for the five-year pilot program was approximately 2.7 million dollars, which was provided by a grant from the Federal Government.

In terms of a proposal for funding moving forward, Marcel Tellier indicated that in the proposal submitted to the Province, they outlined three separate three-year funding scenarios for CeaseFire. The first scenario being a continuation of the status quo with a three-year ask of just over 2.2 million in funding. The second option proposes to expand the mandate of the program by expanding the target

demographics beyond only African Nova Scotian males between the ages of 16 and 24 years of age, with a three-year ask of approximately 2.6 million. Lastly, the third option proposes three-year funding of 3.4 million, which would include enhanced rehabilitation services for individuals who are identified as being high-risk.

Responding to further questions from members of the Board regarding what the Province has agreed to fund, as well as funding expectations for the HRM should any co-funding plan move forward, Tellier indicated that the Province has not yet provided a specific figure. Ceasefire would be asking the Municipality to make a contribution in the approximate amount of 25% to 50% of the three-year cost of the program, based on what the Province agrees to cover.

When asked by members of the Board whether CeaseFire or the Community Justice Society have been able to identify other possible partners outside of the Province and the Municipality, Marcel Tellier indicated that they have not.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners recommends that Halifax Regional Council

- a. request a staff report to examine the potential for continued funding for the CeaseFire Halifax program, the assessment of which should be in keeping with the principles outlined in the Public Safety Strategy.**
- b. Direct, with the agreement of the CAO, that the staff report be prepared by the Municipality's Public Safety Advisor.**
- c. Require that the staff report come back to Halifax Regional Council for consideration prior to the final HRM budget for 2018/2019.**

MOTION PUT AND PAST.

The Chair thanked Mel Lucas and Marcel Tellier for their presentation.

5. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to in camera (in private) to discuss Item 5.1

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

In accordance with s. 51 of the NS *Police Act*, the Board moved in camera (in private) at 1:33 p.m.

5.1 Personnel Matter

A matter pertaining to an identifiable individual or group.

This matter was discussed In Camera (In Private). The following motion was ratified in public session:

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, Seconded by Commissioner Beals

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the recommendation contained in the December 13, 2017 private and confidential staff report to the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Board reconvened to the public session at 2:36 p.m.
Commissioner Mason left the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

6. Budget Review Halifax District RCMP

**6.1 Halifax District Budget & Expenditures 2011-2018 and Budget Forecast 2018/19 - Insp.
Robert A. Doyle**

The following was before the Board:

- Halifax District Budget & Expenditures 2011-2018 and Budget Forecast 2018/19.

Insp. Robert Doyle presented an overview to the Board of the budget documents for the RCMP, Halifax District. It was noted that they are not currently in possession of the budget figures for the coming year, however, no significant change is anticipated. As a consequence, the overview of the budget for past fiscal years provides a close approximation of the RCMP, Halifax District's budget going forward.

Insp. Robert Doyle addressed questions on the potential impact that the legalisation of cannabis might have on the operating budget. Due to the fact that there are still many uncertainties about the impact of the legalization, a detailed assessment could not be provided at this time.

Commissioner Craig noted that it has been regular practice for the Board to be provided with information regarding the head-count, or number of full time employees of the Halifax Regional Police. The Commissioner noted that the Board has not been provided with this information for the RCMP, Halifax District. The Board would require this information to undertake any assessment for the need for more members and to make any recommendations in this regard to Halifax Regional Council.

Commissioner Craig inquired as to whether Insp. Robert Doyle is aware of any current need for new members, and if so, how the RCMP, Halifax District, would be able to substantiate such a need. Responding to Commissioner Craig, Insp. Robert Doyle indicated that they are currently in the process of doing an assessment for staffing needs and would provide and update to the Board in 2018.

The Chair thanked Insp. Robert Doyle for the presentation to the Board.

**7. Review/Update of Halifax Regional Police Operating Budget 2018/19 Continuation - Chief
Jean-Michel Blais**

The following was before the Board:

- Extract of the Draft minutes of the December 11, 2017 meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners;
- Updated Operating Budget Work Paper (2017/18 to 2018/19 Budget Comparison);
- Updated Operating Budget Work Paper (2018/19 Proposed Budget including 3 Year Financial History);
- Updated Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary).

Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police, provided the Board with an overview of the updated HRP operating budget documents. The operating budget working paper has been updated to include new figures for criminal record checks and there has been a slight increase in estimated budget pressures.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, Seconded by Commissioner Beals

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners direct staff of the Halifax Regional Police to prepare the final 2017-2018 operating budget to be presented to Halifax Regional Council, as discussed during the meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on December 18, 2017.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – January 15, 2018

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant