



ATTENDING

- Chair - Councillor Wendy Donovan
- Mayor Jeff Cantwell
- Deputy Mayor Carl Oldham
- Joan Boutilier
- Michael Jeffrey
- Robert Lutes
- RCMP Sgt Andrew Buckle
- Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin
- Department of Justice Representative Terry Hennigar, and
- Recording Secretary Dan Stovel

ALSO ATTENDING

- Compliance Officer Blair MacMurtery, and
- Interested members of the public

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Councillor Donovan, called the meeting to order at 9:55 am

Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 11, 2017 RCMP ADVISORY BOARD MEETING BE APPROVED

a. July 11, 2017

3. RCMP Report

a. Quarterly Update

- Total calls for service in Town of Wolfville: 259
- Majority of noise complaints received during this quarter were received since the start of the school season
- Approximately 45 hours of foot patrol were conducted by the RCMP within the Town of Wolfville

July 11, 2017 -

September 18, 2017

(1). Welcome Week

- Kings Detachment initiated an Ops Plan for Welcome Week. This entailed numerous patrols (foot) within the Town of Wolfville with additional police presence from outside the complement of Wolfville
- Sgt Buckle attended the Acadia Athletic Orientation session and participated in a panel to inform students of expectations of behaviour and accountability. This session was very well received by those in attendance



Agenda Item

b. 2016-2017 Annual Performance Plan

Discussion and Decisions

- Safe roads and safe highways in Nova Scotia
- Safety and Security of all Nova Scotians (Crime Reduction)
- Enhance our relationship with Aboriginal Communities
- Safe and peaceful community (Wolfville) – ongoing
 - Foot/Bike patrols
 - Enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Act
 - Noise Bylaw enforcement
 - Sgt Buckle and S/Sgt Coughlin participated in an open house on policing model for the Town of Wolfville on Wednesday, September 13

RCMP Advisory Board Comments/Observations:

- RCMP presence in the core area was recognized, and welcomed, by members of the municipality during Welcome Week
- Were 47 calls for the Prevention of Excessive Noise Bylaw specific to different incidents? This referred to 47 complaints in total and not to 47 different sites
- RCMP members are directed to follow-up with the caller of the complaint
- It is important to build relationships with the RCMP officers serving in Wolfville as part of community policing. Although the RCMP assigned to Wolfville may at times serve outside of the Town, the RCMP Police officers are Wolfville's police force
- Of the 45 hours of foot patrols, approximately 10-15 hours were conducted during Welcome Week
- There is a perceived perception by members of the municipality that if they call the Police, their identity as the complainant will be provided to the instigator of the issue, therefore, there is hesitancy to call the police. Sgt Buckle highlighted that the RCMP do try for the most part to not provide complainant details
- While there are a number of absent landlords, there are other landlords within the Town who actively take it upon themselves to deal with issues from their tenants

4. New Business

a. 2017-09-13 Policing in Wolfville Public Sessions

- Approximately 40 people attended the 6:30pm session and 15 people attended the session at 7:45pm – two sessions were held to accommodate the fact there was a conflict with parent-teacher school orientation that evening
- S/Sgt Paul Coughlin and Sgt Andrew Buckle presented information to the public and the sessions were chaired by Councillor Wendy Donovan
- The same questions tended to come up in both sessions and a summary of the questions from members of the community is included at [Appendix A](#)



Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

- Key question areas included:
 - The RCMP office move to New Minas with regard to RCMP response time and how that would be impacted
 - Legalization of marijuana – is the Town ready and what is going to be done to be prepared for the legalization
 - The relationship with Acadia University and the code of conduct with the students, and how that relationship worked
 - The landlords and their role in working with the RCMP to resolve some of the community concerns

Board Comments/Observations:

- The meeting was seen to provide good Public Relations for the RCMP police for those in the community that would not normally deal with the police
- If not on patrol, the RCMP members are located within the RCMP office building in Wolfville and this applies to both day and night. From the RCMP perspective, policing service can still be provided to Wolfville if the RCMP were located out of the New Minas office
- To the general public, having the RCMP office on Main Street in Wolfville provides a level of comfort
- It was highlighted that the level of RCMP policing service to the Town of Wolfville would not change if the RCMP office were to be located in New Minas. The RCMP are contracted to provide policing service to the Town of Wolfville

Next Steps/Additional Information Required:

- The residents of the Town of Wolfville should be provided with a summary of questions and answers from the RCMP Policing in Wolfville session, Wednesday, September 13, 2017
- What didn't get discussed at the September 13th session was the issue of the service provided for Criminal Records Checks; which is currently available through the Town of Wolfville RCMP office. If the RCMP were to move to New Minas, students and residents of Wolfville would need to go to New Minas
- The majority of Criminal Records checks are students. The initial documentation can be picked up at Town Hall; however, if the RCMP were located to New Minas, the documentation would have to be dropped off in New Minas. There is currently no ability for someone to complete a Criminal Background check online
- Perceived that there is nothing to be gained by the RCMP moving to an office in New Minas
- If the move of the RCMP to New Minas is going to be continued to be considered, it is recommended that there be another Public Forum to have the necessary detailed discussion with residents of



Agenda Item

Discussion and Decisions

the Town of Wolfville

- Public perception is very strong with regard to reduction in the level of support from the RCMP if the office were to be moved to New Minas

Policing Review Discussion, Chair – Councillor Donovan

- Chair highlighted that there were previous discussions about a “Policing Review”. This is a standard process which does not mean that the current policing model would be changed, but a good management tool to say to identify current policing requirements
- It was proposed that this should be undertaken again by the Town of Wolfville
- Any discussion of change of location for the RCMP would need to be put on hold until completion of the Policing Review
- There are issues to answer before undertaking a policing review – who undertakes the review, what will it cost
- The discussion with regard to RCMP Office move has sparked a broader policing discussion
- Cost, scope and other issues would need to be worked out prior to undertaking any Policing Review
- The process for a Policing Review and that the overall process would take approximately one year
- Identified that a Policing Review and the movement of RCMP office space were two separate issues and that there was no requirement to undertake a Policing Review
- A call for a Policing Review could be perceived as indicating that there is a problem with the Policing services provided by the RCMP, which is not the case
- Chair highlighted that for the December meeting of the RCMP Advisory Board, there will be details provided to the Board with regards to a Policing Review for background information
- In the future, there does need to be some public dialogue as to how to improve policing services in the Town of Wolfville – an evaluation of policing services



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**b. RCMP Office Space
Discussion /
Additional
Consultation**

Discussion and Decisions

- The decision to move has nothing to do with the RCMP – it is up to the Town
- Another public meeting could reach out to additional members of the community

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD FORWARD THE FOLLOWING MOTION TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION:

WHEREAS; THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD HAS HEARD CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY WITH REGARD TO THE MOVE OF RCMP OFFICE SPACE TO NEW MINAS; AND

WHEREAS; THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD SUPPORTS THE WORK OF THE RCMP IN THE TOWN OF WOLFVILLE; AND

THAT COUNCIL NOT AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE OCCUPATION OF THE RCMP SPACE LOCATED AT 363 MAIN STREET

CARRIED

DECISION: THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD DECIDED TO MEET IN OCTOBER, OUTSIDE THE REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE, TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS AND ANY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS TO REVIEW POLICING IN WOLFVILLE

**5. Roundtable
Discussion**

No additional issues for discussion were put forward by Board members

6. Question Period

George Lohnes

- Fully respect the citizen representatives on the Advisory Board and if there is going to be public involvement, there has to be an opportunity during the course of the meetings, and not just at the end of the meeting. Leaving public involvement to the end of the meetings does not fully involve the public
- On the issue of the Police Review, as a member of the public I would be 100% against a Policing Review. There is an opportunity, through the Operational Planning Process that is carried out by the RCMP, to participate in the development of the operational plan for Wolfville policing
- It should be noted that there were representatives from the Acadia Student Union present at the September 13th public forum to discuss Policing Services in the Town of Wolfville – a wonderful example of the students making positive contributions by coming forward to Public meetings



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7. Next meeting

Discussion and Decisions

- The next regular meeting of the RCMP Advisory Board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017, and there will be an additional meeting in October (date yet to be determined)

8. Adjournment

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD BE ADJOURNED AT 11:53 AM

CARRIED

Approved at the October 24, 2017 Special RCMP Advisory Board Meeting

As recorded by Dan Stovel, AA Corporate Services/Town Clerk

Appendix A – Policing in Wolfville 2017-09-13
Summary of Questions

Session 1 Questions:

What are we doing to prepare for the legalization of marijuana and to address the emerging issue of opioids?

How can the RCMP detect if drivers are under the influence of marijuana?

What can we do as citizens to help the RCMP?

There is peaked interest in the community about the RCMP office potentially moving to new Minas. How will visibility be impacted if this occurs?

Does Acadia University have a Code of Ethics that governs student behaviour off campus?

In 2000 the RCMP submitted an aggressive proposal to provide Wolfville with policing services. What has changed since that proposal?

What is community policing and how does this differ from regular policing?

What are we doing with landlords that own buildings that have frequent issues/problems? Can we make landlord contact information available to residents? How can we get landlords to have more clout to address large parties?

Session 2 Questions:

What do Wolfville members do to support Kings District members?

Are warnings always given first for noise infractions? What penalties are there for landlords?

How do you define a complaint and what triggers it?

Is the issuing of fines more typical as a result of foot patrols or car patrols?

Would it be more helpful to the RCMP if the Compliance Officer worked evening hours?

Are we prepared for marijuana to become legal on July 1, 2018?

Is it helpful if residents call and report noise complaints?

Can the RCMP enforce one-way street violations and should signage be improved on these streets?



Would it be effective to have a bylaw for public urination? What are other municipalities doing about this?

Can we have additional enforcement so that crosswalk rules are followed?

Are we getting value for our policing service?

What do the RCMP do when they notice garbage, bottles and cans everywhere when they respond to a call – are they in contact with the Compliance Officer directly?

Do students and residents have to contact the RCMP to let them know of a party in advance?

What is the relationship between the RCMP and Acadia Safety and Security?

How will policing change if the detachment isn't located in Wolfville?