



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA POLICE SERVICES BOARD

PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, September 24, 2020

ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 9:00 am.

ROLL CALL

PSB MEMBERS:

Mr. B. Steele, A/Chair
Mr. H. D'Angela
Mr. D. Eke
Mr. B. Gale
Mr. K. Gibson
Ms. T. McKendrick

Ms. D. Reid, Executive Director

NRPS MEMBERS:

Chief of Police B. MacCulloch
Deputy Chief B. Flynn, Operational Support
A/Deputy Chief D. Meade, Support Services
Superintendent B. Ash, Emergency & Investigative Services
Superintendent R. Frayne, Operational Support
A/Superintendent S. Dowd, District Operations
A/Superintendent L. Greco, Executive Services
Mr. A. Askoul, Director of Information Technology Services
Ms. S. Sabourin, Corporate Communications Manager
Ms. L. Rullo, Finance Manager
Inspector D. Masotti, Executive Officer to the Chief

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict or pecuniary interest.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

135. Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, July 23, 2020.

Moved by: H. D'Angela
Seconded by: D. Eke

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, July 23, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

REPORTS FROM THE ACTING CHAIR

Acting Chair Steele welcomed all participants to the meeting. He advised that during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critically important that the Board continues with its governance and oversight work. Since April, the Board has held its monthly meetings by tele-conference. For this meeting, Board members and police staff are connecting by Zoom and the Board will continue to meet virtually until in-person meetings can safely resume.

Acting Chair Steele thanked Chief MacCulloch, his Executive Leadership Team, and the Uniform and Civilian Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service who have been working diligently and at times under difficult circumstances. Niagara Region residents, members of the media, and Niagara Regional Police staff were also acknowledged for their support and for staying connected when viewing Board meetings.

Tribute to Indigenous Lands – The Board acknowledged that the land on which the meeting is held is the traditional territory of First Nations peoples. In particular the Board thanked and recognized the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples for their stewardship of these lands over the millennia. The Board also recognized the contribution of Metis, Inuit and other Indigenous people both in shaping and strengthening this Region, Province and Country as a whole.

1 District Facility Project - On July 24th, August 25th, and September 22nd, Member Eke participated in the virtual Joint Region and Police Facilities Accommodations Steering Committee meeting. There are two full reports on the progress made for the 1 District (St. Catharines) facility which is included on today's agenda, listed as Items #137 and #138. The Committee is also scheduled to meet on October 27th and further updates will be provided as the project advances.

1 District - Site Tour - On October 2nd, the Board and Service will attend the new 1 District facility in St. Catharines for a tour. While there were some brief delays in construction due to COVID-19, the build's completion is on track, with an anticipated move-in date of mid-February 2021. The tour is scheduled for 1:00 pm.

Canadian Association of Police Governance – Webinar Session - On August 26th, Board Members participated in the CAPG Webinar entitled, "Current & Emerging Challenges in Policing". The CAPG offers monthly webinars as an educational resource to keep boards and police executives apprised of issues currently impacting the policing community.

CAPG – Annual Conference - The Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) is hosting its 2020 Annual Conference virtually from October 30th to November 2nd. This year's theme is entitled "Prioritizing Wellness Through Governance". Agenda topics will focus on current and emerging issues in policing and although the format may be somewhat different due to COVID, the goal of the CAPG remains to bring participants relevant and thought-leading presentations; opportunities for meaningful conversation and dialogue, and an opportunity to hear from engaging experts.

Upcoming PSB Meetings

The next Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, October 8th and the next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 22nd at 8:30 am.

REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Continuing COVID-19 Situation - As a Service, the NRPS continues to manage and adapt to the ever-changing reality of the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it is having on Niagara's community and members of the police service. The Government of Ontario has again extended most Orders currently in place under the Reopening Ontario Act (ROA) until October 22, 2020. Since the last Board meeting held in July, Niagara has moved into Stage 3 of the province's framework to recovery plan which allowed for the easing of certain restrictions. At the time, this included the permitted increase from a maximum of 10 people at a social gathering to 50 people indoors and 100 people at outdoor settings. Also included in the easing of restrictions was the opening of indoor areas of restaurants and bars, and the opening of libraries and gyms with restrictions and requirements in place as it pertains to physical distancing.

As of September 19, 2020, the Government scaled back some of the easing of restrictions as it pertains to social gatherings. This maximum number of people now permitted to attend organized public events and social gatherings, except where the event is held at a place operated by a business or organization, is reduced to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. This includes functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, BBQ's or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, parks and other recreational areas. These numbers cannot be combined to form a new capacity limit and the new rules do not apply to monitored social gatherings or organized public events held at a place operated by a business or organization.

Further to support the efforts of Public Health Officials, the messaging from the Government now emphasizes a stronger enforcement approach rather than the educational approach that was previously stressed. In keeping with this approach, the organizers/owners of the private events can now be fined \$10,000 and attendees could be fined \$750 for contravention of the Order. Police officers, special constables or First Nations constables now have the authority to temporarily close premises and require individuals to leave the premises where a gathering or event is in violation of any gathering limit. This includes a private premise except for persons who reside at the location. Individuals are not permitted to re-enter the premises on the same day the premises was closed unless authorized by a law enforcement official.

As all of us are aware, as of July 31, 2020, a new mandatory mask by-law for the Niagara Region came into effect. This was in addition to mask by-laws that were already in place for the City of St Catharines and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Most recently on September 17, 2020, Regional Council voted to extend the Region wide mask by-law until April of 2021. The by-law requires that all persons wear a mask or face covering in enclosed public spaces, and this includes members of the Niagara Regional Police Service. For greater clarity, enclosed public spaces means all or any portion of a building that is located indoors and where the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access whether or not a fee is charged or a membership is required for entry. As a result of this by-law, we have signage posted within all police facilities advising members of the public of the mandatory mask requirement as per the by-law. Life continues to be far from "normal" and the Province and Public Health authorities continue to stress physical distancing, frequent hand-washing and encouraging people to stay at home when ill.

Our Pandemic Business Continuity Committee continues to meet regularly to adapt methods as needed. The Service has and continues to be vigilant and methodical in its approach to ensure the safety of all members. The Service will continue to be flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances based on a combination of government and public health direction and police will continue to closely monitor what is taking place within the community. The Service also continues to work with stakeholders including all local municipalities, the Region, Public Health, and staff continues to participate in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to help guide through these evolving times. Included within this mutual cooperation framework, members of the Service continue to assist municipal by-law officers in ensuring the compliance of Orders. Chief MacCulloch thanked all municipalities, and in particular their enforcement personnel, in continuing to manage and deal with the various evolving government Orders and in responding to the various issues and concerns identified within their communities.

The Service is also mindful of the current return to school concern amidst our "new normal" and police realistically don't know what the next several months will bring in terms of a possible second wave of COVID-19 and the potential for increased community spread. While the Service is committed to being flexible and adapting as necessary to support its members, Chief MacCulloch has encouraged members to proactively think about finding child care arrangements should the need arise.

Since the start of the pandemic back in March, the Service has been able to maintain adequate staffing levels and has not had to cancel any scheduled time off of members. As of this date, the NRPS has not had any confirmed cases of COVID-19 affecting any of its members, which is obviously very good news and a testament that police employees are adhering to the safety precautions. As of August 17, 2020 all members all sworn and civilian members who were working remotely have returned to the workplace and members are encouraged to observe all safety measures in the workplace as well as in their personal lives when off-duty. In regard to personal protection equipment or PPE, the Service continues to maintain an adequate supply of N95 masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and wipes.

This supply of PPE's and the supply chains continues to be monitored and assessed to ensure the Service is well positioned for any future possibilities.

In terms of calls for service, currently the Service is trending at or near pre-pandemic levels. This has been the case for a little over four months now. There has been no significant deviation of calls for service in respect of geographical area regarding any vulnerable group or any serious breaches of the peace related to the pandemic. The Niagara Regional Police Service to date has itself issued five Provincial Offence Notices for failing to comply with Orders and has received a total of 1,007 COVID-19 specific calls for service related to *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) or *Reopening Ontario Act* (ROA) Orders.

In an effort to safeguard and ensure that members have the most current and accurate information, Chief MacCulloch has issued 49 update mass email messages. He continues to host virtual Town Hall meetings when necessary as another means to share information and provide an opportunity for members to ask questions related to COVID-19. All members of the Service, sworn and civilian have done an outstanding job during this unprecedented challenge. Chief MacCulloch thanks his rank and file for their continued dedication and professionalism while continuing to serve the Niagara community.

In closing, Chief MacCulloch cautioned that we are all seeing the current uptick of COVID-19 cases within the Niagara Region, as well as the Province, and now is not the time to become complacent. We must all continue to be vigilant in practicing good hygiene, physical distancing and wearing masks when physical distancing is not possible.

NRPS Annual Report - Crime Analysis - The Service's annual Crime Analysis report contains various pieces of information and includes the ranking of the St. Catharines-Niagara census metropolitan area in the Crime Severity Index. The Crime Severity Index provides rankings for 35 census metropolitan areas throughout Canada. Within the past week, the Service received required information from Statistics Canada and staff are currently compiling a report to be submitted for the regularly scheduled October Police Services Board meeting.

SIU Case Closure – Incident of December 31, 2019 - Niagara Regional Police Service personnel in St. Catharines responded to a Rykert Street residence regarding a male armed with a knife. Upon arrival, an officer located a 56 year old male armed with a knife at an outdoor location. The officer drew her sidearm and verbally interacted with the male in an attempt to de-escalate the situation. The officer also ordered the male to drop his knife but he refused to do so. While this was occurring, a second officer arrived also drawing his sidearm. As this interaction continued, the male began walking towards the officers still armed with the knife with the officers walking backwards while warning the male he would be shot if he did not desist and drop the knife. The male while continuing to advance took a few quick steps towards the two officers, approaching them within two to three metres and the officers made the decision to discharge their firearms. Resultantly, they subsequently rendered emergency first aid. Emergency Medical Services attended and transported the male to a local hospital and then to a hospital in Hamilton. Given the serious injury from gunshot wounds, the SIU was notified and invoked their mandate to investigate. The SIU designated two Subject Officers.

On January 1, 2020, the injured male succumbed to his injuries in Hamilton and was pronounced deceased. It should also be noted that the first responding officer at this incident was partnered with a Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) worker forming what is referred to as a Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT). The primary purpose of a MCRRT is to respond to calls for service where persons may be suffering from some sort of mental health issue. This incident included mental health concerns for the male, however given the fact the male was armed with a knife and the situation being very dynamic and unpredictable, the CMHA worker remained in a police vehicle for safety concerns and in compliance with mandated policy.

On August 14, 2020, the Service received notification from SIU Director Joseph Martino. In his closure letter he advised that the SIU has concluded their investigation and that there were no grounds for criminal charges against any officer. He further advised that "disengagement was not an option given the presence of civilians in the area and their potential jeopardy at the hands of an armed male".

Notwithstanding the tragic loss of life, Director Martino also stated that he was “satisfied that the lives of the two Subject Officers would have been in real jeopardy had they waited any longer to protect themselves”.

The Board discussed the Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT) and the respective policy regarding the determining factors of whether the mental health worker, when dispatched to a call as a member of MCCRT and while partnered with a police officer, is to remain in the police cruiser as opposed to having direct involvement with an individual in need of professional mental health assistance. Chief MacCulloch clarified that ultimately this decision is based on an assessment of any imminent danger, specifically if there is any inclination of known weapons or if the situation is perceived by police as volatile at the onset of the call. The policy was developed through a close working relationship with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) and is governed through a co-response model between CMHA and the Niagara Regional Police Service.

Chief MacCulloch further referenced the Service’s “Police Response to Persons - Emotionally Disturbed, Mental Illness or Developmental Disability” annual report. The report includes detailed information on these types of calls for service. Chief MacCulloch advised that on a go forward basis the Service will include information detailing mental health workers’ level of participation at Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team calls for service for the year being reported.

The Board determined it advantageous for members to attend a Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT) workshop with the Canadian Mental Health Association and NRPS to gain a better understanding on the operations of the program. This session will also assist the Board when/if determining the need to expand the program further across the Region. It was requested that the workshop be scheduled on a Board Committee meeting date and pending the appointment of the Board’s new provincial appointee to ensure their participation in the workshop.

Operational Statistics – Reporting Period of July - August

Homicides

- 0 for this reporting period with a total of 3 for 2020 to-date compared to year-end totals of 7 in 2019, 2 in 2018, 3 in 2017 and 1 in 2016.

Attempted Homicides

- 1 for this reporting period.

Attempted Homicide Incident of August 18, 2020 – Uniform officers from 2 District responded to a residence on Huron Street in the City of Niagara Falls following the report of a stabbing. Further investigation at the scene revealed that a 53 year old male stabbed a 35 year old male victim at a River Road residence in Niagara Falls. The victim was treated by Emergency Medical Services and transported to a local hospital for emergency medical treatment. The 53 year old male was eventually located in Niagara Falls and arrested and charged with Attempted Murder. The victim in this matter is expected to survive and has since been released from hospital. Both males are known to each other and the matter is now before the courts.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC)

- 3 for this reporting period, with a total of 14 for 2020 to date compared to year-end totals of 13 in 2019, 13 in 2018, 16 in 2017, 16 in 2016 and 15 in 2015.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision – Incident of July 7, 2020 - Police responded to a report of a single motor vehicle collision on Lakeshore Road near Cement Road in the Township of Wainfleet. Investigation determined that a 20 year old male driver was operating a Dodge pickup truck eastbound on Lakeshore Road at a high rate of speed. The driver of the vehicle lost control leaving the roadway on the north side of Lakeshore Road, crossing a residential property, and coming to rest on its roof in a wooded area. Of the three occupants, the driver was treated for minor injuries, a 21 year old male passenger was treated for life-threatening injuries, and a 25 year old male passenger was pronounced deceased at the scene. The injured passenger is now recovering from home. The driver of the pickup truck has been charged with numerous offences including Impaired Operation of a Vehicle Causing

Death, Impaired Operation of a Vehicle Causing Bodily Harm, Criminal Negligence Causing Death and Criminal Negligence Causing Bodily Harm. The investigation into this matter continues.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision – Incident of July 23, 2020 - Police responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision on Mountain Road at the termination of the off ramp from the Fort Erie bound QEW in the City of Niagara Falls. Investigation determined that a Honda Civic had exited the Fort Erie bound QEW onto the off ramp at Mountain Road. The Honda, which was being operated by a 24 year old female, was in the process of turning left onto Mountain Road from the off ramp when it was struck by a fully loaded, west bound dump truck towing a trailer. The driver of the Honda was pronounced deceased at the scene. A 25 year old male passenger in the Honda was treated for minor injuries. The driver of the dump truck was not physically injured. The investigation into this matter continues.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision – Incident of July 29, 2020 - Police responded to a report of a serious motor vehicle collision on Niagara Stone Road at Eastchester Avenue, in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Initial investigation revealed that a northbound vehicle heading towards Niagara-on-the-Lake had struck a southbound vehicle head on. It was determined that the collision occurred in the southbound lane of Niagara Stone Road when a northbound Chevrolet Caprice being operated by a 32 year old male came into contact with a southbound Porsche Boxster being operated by a 60 year old female. The female driver was pronounced deceased at the scene and the male driver was transported by an air ambulance with life-threatening injuries to an out of town hospital. The collision remains under investigation by members of the Collision Reconstruction Unit.

Enforcement Initiatives:

Man Charged Following Stabbing in Niagara Falls – On August 31, 2020, Niagara Falls uniform officers were called to a motel in the area of Dunn Street and Stanley Avenue in the City of Niagara Falls following the report of a disturbance. When officers arrived, they found two males and a female with injuries resulting from a stabbing. A 50 year old male was airlifted to an out of region hospital for treatment of serious but non-life threatening injuries. A 36 year old female was treated in hospital for minor injuries while a 38 year old male was treated for minor injuries in hospital before being taken into custody. The 38 year old male is facing a number of charges, including aggravated assault. The three persons involved were all known to each other.

Four Charged Following Drug Trafficking Investigation - Since the beginning of September 2020, investigators with the Niagara Regional Police Service have been investigating the alleged sale of Fentanyl by a group of individuals in the Niagara Region. On September 4, 2020, members of the Intelligence Unit arrested four people in a hotel parking lot in the area of Lundy's Lane and Belmont Avenue in the City of Niagara Falls. Further investigation led to the seizure of a quantity of Fentanyl with an estimated street value of over \$156,000 along with over \$7,800 in currency. The four individuals are all facing charges related to drug trafficking.

2020 Back to School – Traffic Safety and Awareness Day - On September 8, 2020, the Niagara Regional Police Service conducted its 20th annual back to school traffic safety and awareness day. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this back to school day was like no other. This year the Niagara School Boards elected to stagger the start date and times during the first week. Even though not all students were returning this day, the Niagara Regional Police wanted to continue with this worthwhile initiative to remind drivers about safe driving habits that can help to protect the lives of our citizens in Niagara.

Each year, senior officers and those who work in specialty units who are not regularly assigned to uniform patrol duties put on their uniforms and head out to the local schools zones to take part in this traffic safety and awareness day. In addition to the regular uniform patrol officers another 41 officers took part in the initiative. This year the focus was on our 10 new Community Safety Zones that joined the existing two from last year. The purpose of a Community Safety Zone is to modify driver behaviour and improve safety on certain sections of road where public safety is of special concern. The fines for offences committed in Community Safety Zones are increased and speeding fines are doubled. None of the rules of the road change within the zone, only the penalties.

Officers attended each of the 12 Community Safety Zones and informed drivers about the increased fines. Warnings continued for the following two weeks and officers began laying charges on September 21. Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service will continue to conduct traffic safety programs in school zones throughout the entire school year, by targeting aggressive and distracted drivers.

The Niagara Regional Police Service wish to remind all drivers to be alert, drive with caution and be aware of their surroundings, especially in the area of schools and other educational facilities.

NRPS Investigate Threats in Grimsby - On September 10, 2020, Grimsby uniform officers from the Niagara Regional Police Service were called to a residence on John Street in Grimsby, for a report of a domestic disturbance and threats complaint. Initial investigation revealed that a 36 year old male had just left from the residence with his 5 year old son. Detectives investigating the initial incident formed grounds for the arrest of the male in relation to uttering threats towards an adult female. Through investigative techniques, uniform officers were able to determine the general area of the suspect's moving vehicle.

At approximately 4:25 pm, the vehicle was seen by officers near the border of Thorold and Niagara Falls. The vehicle was observed driving in an erratic manner. Officers followed the vehicle around Niagara Falls from a safe distance until such time as they could attempt to stop it in the area of Lundy's Lane and Beachwood Road. The suspect vehicle collided with an Ontario Provincial Police patrol car that was assisting in the investigation. The man was subsequently arrested. Officers located the child in the suspect car. He was uninjured. He was transported to a local hospital for a precautionary assessment. The 36 year old male of no fixed address was arrested and charged with numerous offences including flight from police, utter threats and drive while prohibited.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

CONSENT AGENDA

136. RMON - Regional Council - Items Approved/Received – July 23, 2020

The Board considered letter dated July 27, 2020 from Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Niagara Region, advising of the Budget Review Committee of the Whole recommendations that were approved by Regional Council at its meeting held July 23, 2020 respecting the 2021 budget planning process.

137. NRPS 1 District (St. Catharines) Project Status Report – July 2020

The Board considered memo dated August 11, 2020 from Nicole Menard, Senior Project Manager, Facilities, Niagara Region, providing the Board with a Project Status Report on the NRPS 1 District facility for July 2020.

138. NRPS 1 District (St. Catharines) Project Status Report – August 2020

The Board considered memo dated September 9, 2020 from Nicole Menard, Senior Project Manager, Facilities, Niagara Region, providing the Board with a Project Status Report on the NRPS 1 District facility for August 2020.

139. Quarterly Report – Overtime Activities Incurred by the NRPS – April 1 to June 30, 2020

The Board considered Service report dated September 8, 2020 providing a five-year uniform and civilian trend analysis by quarter and year-to-date with explanation of the factors that influence the Service's requirement for overtime.

140. Quarterly Report – Special Fund Administration – April 1 to June 30, 2020

The Board considered Service report dated September 4, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 376-2018.

The Board requested that the Executive Director review the Board's policy and procedures regarding the requirements of the Special Fund Account audit for further consideration by the Board as to the necessity of the audit being performed annually at a cost of over \$5,000.

141. Quarterly Report – Administration of the Public Complaints System – April 1 to June 30, 2020

The Board considered Service dated July 21, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 301-2010.

142. Annual Report – Bail and Violent Crime – January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 4, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 215-2000.

143. Annual Report – Policing Aboriginal Occupations and Protests - January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 1, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 324-2012.

144. Annual Report – Preliminary Perimeter Control and Containment - January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 1, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 345-2014.

145. Annual Report – Property Offences (Including Break & Enter) – January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 4, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 222-2000.

146. Annual Report – Speed Detection Devices – January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 1, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 321-2012.

147. Annual Report – Traffic Management, Enforcement and Road Safety - January 1 to December 31, 2019

The Board considered Service report dated September 1, 2020 submitted in accordance to the reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 292-2009.

148. NRPS Special Fund Donation – Acknowledgement – Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB)

The Board considered correspondence dated July 31, 2020 from Patrick Weaver, Chair, OAPSB, acknowledging the Board's sponsorship in support of the OAPSB's 2020 Spring Annual General Meeting held virtually on May 29, 2020.

Moved by: B. Gale
Seconded by: K. Gibson

That the information be received.

Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

149. RMON - Regional Council – Motion – Niagara Regional Police Service – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The Board considered correspondence dated August 17, 2020 from Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Niagara Region, advising of the motion passed by Regional Council at its meeting held August 13, 2020 regarding the matter of the Niagara Regional Police Service – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, as put forward by Councillor Sendzik.

Moved by: T. McKendrick
Seconded by: H. D'Angela

That the information be received;

And further, that the item be referred to the Chief of Police for a report back at the October 22, 2020 Board meeting to address each of the Region's requests as identified in the motion.

Carried.

150. Town of Fort Erie – Town Council Motion – Niagara Regional Police Service – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The Board considered correspondence dated August 25, 2020 from Carol Schofield, Manager, Legal Services/Clerk, Town of Fort Erie, addressed to Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Niagara Region, advising that the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie supported the motion passed by Regional Council at its August 13, 2020 meeting regarding the matter of the Niagara Regional Police Service – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Moved by: D. Eke
Seconded by: B. Gale

That the information be received.

Carried.

151. NRPS Financial Variance Overview – Period Ending June 30, 2020

The Board considered Service report dated September 9, 2020 providing an analysis of the 2020 second quarter financial operating results for the Service and Board, as well as the year-end forecast based on current indicators.

Moved by: K. Gibson
Seconded by: T. McKendrick

That the information be received.

Carried.

152. Police Services Board – 2021 Proposed Meeting Schedule

The Board considered memorandum dated September 9, 2020 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, providing the proposed meeting schedule for the year 2021.

Moved by: H. D'Angela
Seconded by: D. Eke

That the Board approve the Schedule of Regular Meetings for the Niagara Regional Police Services Board and Committee meetings for the year 2021 as presented.

Carried.

153. REVISED – 2021 Capital Budget

The Board considered Service report dated September 4, 2020 providing the Board with a revised 2021 Capital Budget to reduce the amount originally allocated to the 911 Communications Backup Centre by \$1.4 million as the costs associated with the construction or relocation of the 911 Backup Centre will be the responsibility of the Region, and the costs of specialized equipment and furniture will be included in the police capital budget. *(This matter was pre-approved by the Board via e-polling on September 21, 2020 and is provided for ratification and public reporting purposes).*

Moved by: B. Gale
Seconded by: K. Gibson

That the Board approves an amendment to the 2021 Capital Budget Business Case for the construction of the 911 Communication Backup Centre facility as follows:

- 1. That the 2021 Capital Budget be reduced by \$1,400,000 to reflect the change of funding the construction of a 911 Communication Backup Centre facility for \$6,000,000 to funding the cost of the specialized equipment and furniture required for the new facility at a total estimated cost of \$4,600,000; and**
- 2. That financing in the amount of \$4,600,000 be initiated upon approval of the 2021 Capital Budget and funded from debenture debt.**

Carried.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

There was no other new business.

IN CAMERA REPORTS

(FOR PUBLIC RELEASE FROM THE JULY 23, 2020 CONFIDENTIAL MEETING)

- 154. Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Public Reporting** – The following reports were provided to the Board at its July 23, 2020 Confidential Board Meeting and were approved for public release:

- C.143 Special Investigations Unit (SIU) - Case Number 19-OVI-196; and**
C.144 Special Investigations Unit (SIU) - Case Number 19-OCI-048.

Moved by: T. McKendrick
Seconded by: H. D'Angela

That, in accordance with Board direction, the above noted In Camera Reports be received for public information.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The Public Meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.

Bill Steele, Acting Chair

Deb Reid, Executive Director