



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
POLICE SERVICES BOARD
PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, July 27, 2023
Niagara Regional Police Service - Headquarters
Community Room 1st Floor, 5700 Valley Way, Niagara Falls

PSB MEMBERS:

J. Lawson, Chair
P. Chiocchio, Board Member
L. Ip, Board Member
N. Kapisavanhu, Board Member
B. Steele, Board Member

D. Reid, Executive Director
D. Cichocki, Executive Assistant

PSB MEMBERS:

Chief of Police B. MacCulloch
Deputy Chief B. Flynn, Operational Services
Deputy Chief B. Fordy, Support Services
Superintendent B. Ash, District Operations
Superintendent M. Giannico, District Operations
Superintendent L. Greco, Executive Services
Superintendent M. Lagrotteria, Corporate Services
Superintendent J. Mackay, Operational Support
Superintendent T. Waselovich, Emergency & Investigative Services
A. Askoul, Director of Information Technology
Inspector D. Gomez, Executive Officer to the Chief
Inspector D. Masotti, Detective Support
S/Sergeant Mike Tripp, Special Investigative Services
D/Sergeant K. Fiddes, Executive Officer to Deputy Chief
L. Rullo, Finance Manager
Ms. C. Woods, Financial Planning Coordinator
A. Mauricette, Executive Assistant to Superintendent/Director
D/Constable J. DiFranco, Opioid Enforcement and Education Unit
D/Constable J. Meffe, Opioid Enforcement and Education Unit

OTHERS:

Mr. D. Tilley, Policing Services Advisor, Ministry of the Solicitor General
Mr. P. Haskell, Citizen

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 9:30 am.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

The Board began its meeting by acknowledging that the Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe, including the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of conflict or pecuniary interest.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

4.1 **Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, June 22, 2023**

Moved by: P. Chiocchio

Seconded by: L. Ip

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, June 22, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. **REPORTS FROM BOARD CHAIR**

Welcome to Ministry Policing Services Advisor – Chair Lawson welcomed David Tilley to the meeting. David is with the Inspectorate of Policing at the Ministry of the Solicitor General and he serves as a Policing Services Advisor to Zone 4 Police Boards in Ontario. He regularly attends our meetings as part of the routine visits by Policing Services Advisors to Police Boards across the Province. The Board is pleased to see his continued attendance at our monthly meetings.

CAPG – Webinar Sessions - The Canadian Association of Police Governance hosts monthly webinars as part of their educational strategy to keep police boards and police executives across Canada apprised of issues currently affecting the policing community. A webinar was held on July 18, entitled, “Challenges of Recruiting Police Officers - Crisis or Opportunity?” An upcoming webinar is scheduled for August 3 at 12:00 pm for discussions on Police Well-Being and Governance. Board Members are pre-registered and for those who cannot attend at the specific date/time, a recording of the session will follow once the webinar is completed.

Use of Force Training Session – PSB Members - The NRPS hosted a Use of Force training session for all Board Members and staff on July 18. The session included a unique hands-on training opportunity to experience use of force situations in a controlled environment, as well as classroom and practical exercises. The session provided a good overview of the training that NRPS officers experience throughout their policing career as well insight into challenges experienced during routine tours of duty.

CAPG – Virtual Annual General Meeting - The Canadian Association of Police Governance held its Annual General Meeting virtually on July 19 during which the CAPG elected its Board of Directors for the 2023-2025 term, appointed its auditor/public accountant for the 2024 fiscal year and named this year’s recipient of the CAPG Board Award of Excellence in Police Governance. Chair Lawson and Executive Director Reid attended the meeting.

CAPG Annual Conference - The Canadian Association of Police Governance is hosting its 2023 Conference from August 16 – 18 in St. John’s, Newfoundland. The theme of this year’s conference is Governance Talking: Conversation Streams and Deep Dives. Delegates will engage in panel discussions, workshops, and roundtables with a focus on new ideas and problem-solving around key issues facing policing today. Chair Lawson and Members Chiocchio, Kapisavanhu, and the Board’s Executive Director will be attending the conference.

OAPSB Zone 4 Meeting - On September 6, the Board and Service will be hosting the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) and Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) Zone 4 Meeting from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Community Room at Police Headquarters. Zone 4 consists of a total of 14 Police Services Boards, including municipal and OPP Contract Boards or First Nations police governance bodies that are located within the regions or counties of Brant, Haldimand, Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Norfolk, and Oxford. These quarterly engagements allow Boards within a certain geographic area to meet for the purpose of discussing matters related to police governance. All Board members are encouraged to attend and are asked to confirm their attendance with Board staff.

NRPS Recruit Graduation/Swearing-In Ceremony - On September 7 at 7:00 pm, the Niagara Regional Police Service will be holding a Swearing-In Ceremony to welcome five currently serving police officers and 10 new recruit members to the Niagara Regional Police Service. The ceremony will be held in the Community Room at Police Headquarters. All Board Members are encouraged to attend and are asked to confirm their attendance with Board staff.

Police Information Session for Regional Council - On September 8 from 1:30 to 4:30 pm, the Board is hosting an information session for Niagara's Regional Chair and Members of Regional Council at Police Headquarters in the Community Room. The Board looks forward to this important session with Regional Councillors to provide a detailed overview of the Police Services Board and Niagara Regional Police Service and an opportunity to learn how the PSB and NRPS plan to meet the provincial mandate of adequate and effective policing through discussions on Niagara's police programs and services; police operations; administration and management of the Service; and fiscal stewardship of regional funding.

There will also be an opportunity for participants to ask questions, provide feedback and share concerns or ideas from their communities. Police representation at the event will include the Board, Chief, Deputy Chiefs, District Commanders, Members of the NRPS Executive and Senior Leadership Team.

Beyond the Blue - Champions of Change Awards Gala - On September 14, Chair Lawson will be joining Members of the Service at the Beyond the Blue - Champions of Change Awards Gala being held in Toronto. This Gala is to acknowledge and celebrate police service members and community partners who are championing the advancement of mental health and well-being initiatives within their respective police services.

Upcoming PSB Meeting - In keeping with meeting schedule practices for Regional Council, local area municipalities and Agencies, Boards and Commissions; as well as other Police Services Boards, there are no Board or Committee meetings scheduled during the month of August.

The Board's next Committee date is Thursday, September 14 and the next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, September 28. Meetings will be held in the Community Room at Police Headquarters and begin at 9:30 am.

6. REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Global Television True Crime Series - NRPS Role in High-Profile Murder Investigation - The accused, Alexander Bates, was a motorcycle enthusiast as was one of the victims in this matter, Alberto Araujo. These two men knew each other for many years and were considered close friends.

In 2012, Alberto Araujo suffered a near fatal motorcycle accident and was hospitalized for a lengthy period. Mr. Bates offered to help Mr. Araujo and to watch out for his 12- year-old daughter. Thereafter, over a period of several years, Mr. Bates engaged in a series of sexual acts with Mr. Araujo's daughter before the girl's parents discovered the relationship.

In February 2015, Mr. Bates was arrested and charged with several sexual offences related to the relationship with the daughter. He was released on bail. In August 2015, Mr. Araujo and his wife, Meaghan Cher, discovered that tracking devices had been affixed to their vehicles. An analysis of a fingerprint impression located on a tracking device determined it was Mr. Bates who affixed the device. In September 2015, he was charged with criminal harassment.

In January 2016, Mr. Bates pleaded guilty to criminal harassment and sexual interference, and he was sentenced to three years in custody. He harbored significant resentment toward Mr. Araujo and Ms. Cher feeling they were responsible for his arrest and conviction. When Mr. Araujo and Ms. Cher found out that Mr. Bates was being released on parole in February 2018, they feared for their safety and moved from their home in Mississauga to Smithville in secrecy, only giving their address to family.

On December 21, 2018, Mr. Bates attended their home in Smithville and forced Mr. Araujo into the basement with what was later learned to be a replica handgun. When Ms. Cher attended the home with her mother, they too were forced into the basement by Mr. Bates. Ms. Cher was able to escape and call 911. Mr. Bates violently assaulted Mr. Araujo and Ms. Cher's mother with a baseball bat before attempting to escape, but he was intercepted by NRPS responding officers.

Mr. Bates pointed the replica handgun toward the officers and was shot by police during his arrest.

The NRPS charged Mr. Bates with two counts of attempted murder, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose and uttering threats in relation to this incident. On the same day, Mr. Araujo's mother, Maria Araujo, was found deceased at her home in Mississauga. The Peel Police investigation into her death revealed that on the previous day (December 20, 2018), Mr. Bates attended her house to uncover the family's whereabouts. Mr. Bates violently murdered Maria Araujo and disturbed the scene to create the impression that the home had been broken into and ransacked.

Peel Regional Police charged Mr. Bates with second degree murder in relation this incident. In July 2019, he pleaded guilty to two counts of attempted murder in relation to the Niagara charges. He was sentenced to 13 years in custody. In October 2022, he pleaded guilty to second degree murder in relation to the Peel charges. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with no chance of parole for 16 years.

Operational Statistics:

Attempted Homicides - Reporting Period of June 19 to July 26, 2023

- 0 for this reporting period with a total of 2 for 2023 to-date, compared to year-end totals of 7 in 2022, 3 in 2021, 3 in 2020 and 2 in 2019.

Homicides - Reporting Period of June 19 to July 26, 2023

- 0 for this reporting period with a total of 5 for 2023 to date, compared to year-end totals of 10 in 2022, 6 in 2021, 5 in 2020 and 7 in 2019.

Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collision (MVC) - Reporting Period of June 1 to June 30, 2023

- 1 for this reporting period.

Life-Threatening MVC – Incident of June 15, 2023 - At approximately 2:07 am, 2 District officers responded to a single vehicle collision in the area of Willoughby Drive near Weaver Road in Niagara Falls. Officers located a single vehicle that had struck a deer, ran off the road, and collided with a driveway culvert. Niagara EMS paramedics were on scene treating the 27-year-old male driver who was the only occupant of the vehicle. The male was transported to an out-of-town trauma centre for treatment of life-threatening injuries. He remains in hospital. Collision Reconstruction Detectives are continuing the investigation.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC) - Reporting Period of June 1 to June 30, 2023

- 2 for this reporting period with a total of 11 for 2023 to date, compared to year-end totals of 18 for 2022, 21 in 2021, 16 in 2020, 13 in 2019 and 13 in 2018.

Fatal MVC - Incident of June 10, 2023 - At approximately 11:40 am, 2 District officers were called to a single vehicle collision in the area of Lakeshore Road near Old Lakeshore Road in Niagara on the Lake. The officers located a single vehicle that had struck a tree. Niagara EMS paramedics were on scene providing treatment to the 49-year-old female driver who was the sole occupant of the vehicle. She was transported to a local hospital where she was pronounced deceased. Her identity is not being released. Collision Reconstruction Detectives continue to investigate.

Fatal MVC – Incident of June 16, 2023 - At approximately 7:45 am, 1 District officers responded to the area of Third Street Louth and Fifth Avenue Louth in St. Catharines for a report of a serious motor vehicle collision. Officers arrived with Niagara EMS paramedics and located an 86-year-old female passenger of the older model sedan with vital signs absent. The St. Catharines female was pronounced deceased at the scene. The 81-year-old male driver, also from St. Catharines, was extricated from the vehicle by St. Catharines Fire Services members before being transported to hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. Investigation revealed that the sedan was stopped, and then entered the path of an oncoming pickup truck towing a trailer. No one else was injured as a result of the collision. Collision Reconstruction Detectives are continuing the investigation.

Enforcement Initiatives:

Street Crime Detectives Recover Loaded Handgun and Illicit Drugs - In April 2023, 1 District Street Crime Unit Detectives commenced an investigation into the distribution of illegal drugs throughout the City of St. Catharines. As a result, two suspects were arrested, one loaded handgun was seized and a total of \$149,820 worth of illicit drugs was recovered.

On June 26, Detectives observed a suspect in the area of Niagara Street and Church Street, in St. Catharines. They arrested the suspect and a subsequent search revealed he was in possession of 365.8 grams of suspected cocaine, 90.8 grams of suspected methamphetamine, and 68 grams of suspected fentanyl. The 26-year-old male from of Scarborough was charged with three counts of narcotics trafficking offences. The accused was held in custody until a bail hearing on June 27 when he was remanded into custody.

On June 28, Detectives observed a second suspect in a white SUV in the area of Lake Street near Carlton Street in St. Catharines. Detectives arrested the suspect, and the vehicle was seized pending a search warrant. In total, Detectives recovered one loaded 9mm handgun, 10 rounds of 9mm ammunition, 536.9 grams of suspected cocaine, and 69.9 grams of suspected fentanyl. In addition, Detectives recovered approximately \$1,000 in Canadian currency believed to be the proceeds of crime. A 32-year-old male from of Scarborough was charged with numerous firearms, drug trafficking, and proceeds of crime offences. He was held for a bail hearing on June 29, at which time he was remanded into custody.

Detectives Recover Cocaine and Fentanyl After Executing Three Search Warrants - In June 2023, 2 District Street Crime Detectives commenced an investigation into the distribution of illegal drugs throughout the City of Niagara Falls. On July 10, with the assistance of the Emergency Task Unit, Detectives executed search warrants inside a hotel room on Fallsview Boulevard, at a residence on Drummond Road near Monroe Street, and on a 2018 Hyundai SUV being operated by one of the suspects. In total, Detectives recovered 230.7 grams of suspected fentanyl, 46.9 grams of suspected cocaine, 307 grams of suspected cannabis, one smoke grenade classified as an explosive, and one canister of pepper spray classified as a prohibited weapon. The combined estimated value of the seized drugs is \$20,500. In addition, Detectives also seized just over \$42,500 in Canadian currency believed to be the proceeds of crime. As a result of the investigation two suspects have been arrested.

A 28-year-old female of Niagara Falls was charged with possession of fentanyl for trafficking, unauthorized possession of a prohibited or restricted weapon, unlawful possession of explosives and fail to comply with release order. A 29-year-old male of no fixed address was charged with possession of cannabis for trafficking, possession of fentanyl for trafficking, possession of cocaine for trafficking, possession of proceeds of crime over \$5,000 and fail to comply with release order. Both accused remained in police custody until a bail hearing on July 11, at which time they were both remanded into custody.

Carfentanil Recovered During Search Warrant by Street Crime Detectives - In April 2023, 2 District Street Crime Detectives commenced an investigation into the distribution of illegal drugs throughout the City of Niagara Falls. On July 12, Detectives executed a search warrant inside a trailer located on a residential property on Thorold Stone Road near Kalar Road in Niagara Falls.

In total, Detectives recovered 24.3 grams of suspected carfentanil, and 2.7 grams of suspected crystal methamphetamine. Detectives also seized one replica rifle, one replica pistol, and \$280 in Canadian currency believed to be the proceeds of crime. As a result of the investigation, two suspects have been arrested. A 45-year-old male of Niagara Falls is charged with possession of a firearm, weapon, or ammunition contrary to prohibition order, possession of crystal methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking, possession of proceeds of crime under \$5,000, possession of fentanyl for the purpose of trafficking, fail to comply with probation order and fail to comply with release order. A 49-year-old female of Niagara Falls has been charged with possession of crystal methamphetamine for trafficking, possession of fentanyl for trafficking and possession of proceeds of crime under \$5,000. Both accused were held in police custody until a bail hearing on July 13, when the male was remanded into custody and the female was released on an undertaking.

Man & Woman Arrested in Relation to Commercial Break & Enters – Street Crime Detectives from 2 District have been investigating a series of linked commercial break and enters in Niagara Falls and Niagara on the Lake. On July 5, several businesses in the Town of Niagara on the Lake fell victim to “smash and grab” style break and enters. On July 14 and 15 more businesses in Niagara Falls were also targeted by the same suspect(s) resulting in the loss of thousands of dollars in merchandise and damage to property. The investigation led to the identification of two suspects, a female and her son from London. The suspects were arrested on July 22. The 19-year-old son was charged with break enter commit theft (9 counts), theft from automobile under \$5,000, possession of stolen property under \$5,000 and mischief under \$5,000. The 43-year-old mother was charged with break enter commit theft and possession of stolen property under \$5,000. The accused were held in custody for a bail hearing on July 23, at which time they were both remanded into custody.

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 NRPS Opioid Education and Enforcement Unit

Detective Constables Jeremy DiFranco and Jordan Meffe from the Service's Opioid Education and Enforcement Unit (OEEU) provided a presentation on the operations of the OEEU, which is a Service initiative funded by the Ontario Government's Community and Safety Policing Grant that focuses on education regarding the risk associated with illicit opioid use, while incorporating enforcement to address opioid-related issues within the Niagara community.

Detective Constable Meffe spoke to the education component for front line officers, investigators, and partnering agencies regarding drug trafficking related investigations; opioid overdose and death statistics for Niagara, which in 2021, there were 1,001 Niagara EMS responses to suspected opioid overdoses with 52% of those calls being from St. Catharines and 24% being from Niagara Falls. In 2019, there were 93 confirmed opioid-related deaths, 149 in 2020 and 165 in 2021. From 2018-2020 the opioid related death rate in Niagara has been almost double the rate for Ontario.

The presentation also included information specific to the “Victim Centric Model,” and the model's objectives, which was initiated in January 2022 as a new approach to opioid-related death investigations to better address this profound community issue. The officers spoke to the perspective of the courts on this matter as well as thoughts from families whose lives have been impacted by opioid use. Also discussed was the workload of the OEEU during 2022, which resulted with 110 confirmed opioid related deaths and police conducting a review of 51 of those cases, a further comprehensive investigation on 15 cases and the laying of criminal charges in 3 of those cases.

Moved by: N. Kapisavanhu
Seconded by: B. Steele

That the presentation be received.

Carried

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Ministry of the Solicitor General - Community Safety and Policing Act - Amendment for PSB Citizen Appointment Eligibility

Correspondence dated July 17, 2023 from Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, providing a response to the Board's request of March 27, 2023 for a proposed amendment to Section 31 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, to provide greater clarification on the composition of a police services board for enhanced transparency in the municipal council appointment process.

8.2 Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services - Youth in Policing Initiative Program

Service report dated July 10, 2023 providing the Board with information on the Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI) Program, a student employment initiative being administered by 3 District Community Oriented Response and Engagement (CORE) officers and funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS).

8.3 2022 - 2025 Strategic Plan - Status Update

Service report dated July 21, 2023 providing the Board with a status up-date on the Service's performance measures and targets identified in the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan as required for Year 1 of the Plan.

8.4 Quarterly Report - NRPS Authorized Strength as at July 4, 2023

Service report dated July 4, 2023 providing a summary of the actual versus the authorized strength by rank/salary band of the uniform and civilian complement of the Niagara Regional Police Service.

8.5 Quarterly Report - Brock University Campus Security Services - April 1 to June 30, 2023

Report dated July 4, 2023 from Jennifer Guarasci, Acting Vice President, Administration, Brock University, providing a quarterly report about complaints, use of force, discipline and arrests associated to officers designated as Special Constables and employed with Brock University Campus Security Services.

8.6 Annual Report - Bail and Violent Crime - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated July 4, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 215-2000.

8.7 Annual Report - Homicide and Attempted Homicide Investigations - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 28, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 231-2000.

8.8 Annual Report - Emergency Planning - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 27, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 248-2000.

8.9 Annual Report - Policing Aboriginal Occupations and Protests - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 26, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 324-2012.

8.10 Annual Report - Police Response - Emotionally Disturbed, Mental Illness, Developmental Disability - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 23, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 205-2000.

8.11 Annual Report - Problem Oriented Policing, Community Patrol and Crime Prevention - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 22, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-laws 191-2000, 192-2000 and 193-2000.

8.12 Annual Report - Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 16, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 258-2003.

8.13 Annual Report - Secure Holsters - January 1 - December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 16, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 269-2005.

8.14 Annual Report - Skills Development and Learning Plan - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated July 5, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 250-2000.

8.15 Annual Report - Speed Detection Devices - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 29, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 321-2012.

8.16 Annual Report - Supervision - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated July 6, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 217-2000.

8.17 Annual Report - Traffic Management, Enforcement and Road Safety - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 29, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 292-2009.

8.18 Annual Report - Use of Auxiliaries and Volunteers - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated July 5, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 254/255-2003.

8.19 Annual Report - Victims' Assistance - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 30, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 322-2012.

8.20 Annual Report - Violence and Harassment Prevention in the Workplace - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated July 18, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 332-2013.

8.21 Annual Report - Youth Crime - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated June 26, 2023 submitted in accordance with the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 236-2000.

Moved by: L. Ip

Seconded by: N. Kapisavanhu

That the information be received.

Carried

9. NEW BUSINESS

Prior to the Board considering the Special Fund requests (Items 9.3 - 9.6), Chair Lawson highlighted that the “Special Fund” does not form part of the police operating budget and is separate from the Regional tax base. The “Special Fund” is a discretionary pool of funds, which is used for grants and donations. Disbursements from the fund are made in accordance with guidelines provided in the Police Services Act, and with Board By-Law 376-2018, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines.

9.1 Capital Budget and 9-Year Capital Forecast - Budget Year 2024

Service report dated July 18, 2023 requesting the Board approve the proposed 2024 Police Service Capital Budget and 9-Year Capital Forecast. *(A copy of the NRPS 2024 budget presentation is attached to the report.)*

Chief MacCulloch provided a presentation of the 2024 capital budget submission with an overview of the projects selected, including the capital assets to be replaced as well as new assets that are required by the Service. He provided an outline of the 2024 projects and funding sources that are required to maintain the Service's operations with adequate equipment, as well as the 9-year capital forecast from 2025-2033 to serve as a guideline for the development of future capital budgets that provides continuity of services based on the capital financing strategy adopted by the Niagara Region in 2019.

Moved by: B. Steele

Seconded by: P. Chiocchio

That, subject to approval by Regional Council of the consolidated Capital Budget, the Board approve the 2024 Police Service Capital Budget and Forecast as follows:

- 1. That the 2024 Capital Budget of the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) of \$7,898,662.00, as summarized in Appendix 1, be approved.**
- 2. That financing in the amount of \$7,898,662.00 be initiated upon approval of the 2024 Capital Budget and be allocated to the projects as summarized in Appendix 1. *(Financing for the 2024 Capital Budget is from the Police Capital Levy Reserve in the amount of \$1,882,662.00; Police Vehicles and Equipment Reserve Fund in the amount of \$2,242,500.00; Region Capital Levy Reserve in the amount of \$3,273,500.00; and Development Charges in the amount of \$500,000.00).***
- 3. That the 9-year Capital Forecast be received as a guideline for the development of future Capital Budgets.**

Carried

9.2 2023 Capital Project Close Out Report

Service report dated June 30, 2023 requesting Board approval to close completed capital projects and return the balance of the funds to their original source for use in the development of future funding strategies.

Moved by: N. Kapisavanhu
Seconded by: B. Steele

That the Board approve the closure of completed projects and the transfer of funds to the Police Capital Reserve as detailed in the report, resulting in a net transfer to the Police Capital Levy of \$43,186.99.

Carried

9.3 NRPS Special Fund Request - Serving with Pride

Service report dated June 28, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation for the purchase of a table for police representation at the Serving with Pride Gala and Awards event being held October 21, 2023. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Services and Housing in the Provinces (SHIP) to support initiatives for the 2SLGBTQ+ youth. (This is a first-time Special Fund request.)

Moved by: P. Chiocchio
Seconded by: L. Ip

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$1,600.00 from the Special Fund to Serving with Pride for the purchase of a table at their Gala and Awards event.

Carried

9.4 NRPS Special Fund Request - Port Colborne Special Olympics Chapter

Service report dated July 10, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation to the Port Colborne Special Olympics Chapter to cover the registration fees of three NRPS teams competing in the Special Olympics Bocce Ball fundraising event being held on August 12, 2023. (This is a first-time Special Fund request.)

Moved by: N. Kapisavanhu
Seconded by: P. Chiocchio

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$450.00 from the Special Fund to the Port Colborne Special Olympics Chapter to cover the registration of three (3) NRPS Teams competing in the Special Olympics Bocce Ball fundraising event.

Carried

9.5 NRPS Special Fund Request - Canadian Police Memorial "Ride to Remember"

Service report dated July 6, 2023 requesting a donation to assist with costs incurred by Service members participating in the annual Canadian Police Memorial "Ride to Remember" cycling from the Ontario Police College (OPC) to Parliament Hill from September 20 – 23, 2023. (Previous donations: 2008-2012 - \$500, 2013-2018 - \$1,000, 2019 - \$1,500.)

Moved by: B. Steele
Seconded by: L. Ip

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$3,600.00 from the Special Fund to support the participation of NRPS Members in the 2023 Canadian Police Memorial "Ride to Remember" (R2R).

Carried

9.6 NRPS Special Fund Request - Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre

Service report dated June 23, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation in support of the installation of an Indigenous Crosswalk at the Welland Farmers' Market. The crosswalk will be revealed as part of a Truth and Reconciliation walk taking place on September 29, 2023. (Previous donations: 2018 - \$500; 2022 - \$2,000.)

Moved by: L. Ip

Seconded by: P. Chiocchio

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Special Fund to the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre in support of the implementation of an Indigenous Crosswalk at the Welland Farmers' Market.

Carried

10. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

There was no other new business raised or discussed.

11. IN CAMERA REPORTS

There were no in camera reports.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Police Services Board adjourned the public portion of the meeting and reconvened in-camera for consideration of confidential matters pursuant to Section 35(4) of the Police Services Act.

The Public Meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.

Jen Lawson, Chair

Deb Reid, Executive Director