Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City of Airdrie Municipal Policing Advisory Board, in the Province of Alberta, held in Council Chambers, City Hall with the following:

PRESENT
Councillor Candice Kolson, Chair
Councillor Darrell Belyk
Deputy Mayor Ron Chapman
Chris Gourlie
Chris Jacyk
Garth Patterson

STAFF
Lynn Mackenzie, Team Leader, Municipal Enforcement
Leanne St. Onge, Team Leader, RCMP
Kevin Weinberger, Manager, Protective Services/Fire Chief
Kathryn Rushford, Recording Secretary

RCMP
Insp Kimberley Pasloske
Cpl Gina Slaney, Community Liaison Unit

ABSENT WITH REGRETS
Gregory McShane
Jeanna Morrisey

CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

AGENDA
Insp Pasloske added Item 3(f) to the agenda – Update on Spousal Abuse

MINUTES
C. Gourlie moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 31, 2019 be adopted as presented. CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

AME Update

L. Mackenzie presented a Powerpoint update for Airdrie Municipal Enforcement. Concern was raised that an e-mail was sent to the City about carriers getting bitten by dogs and that no response was received. L. Mackenzie explained the process. Councillor Kolson will try to facilitate a meeting with L. Mackenzie and the resident. In response to questions, L. Mackenzie advised that:

- political signs are governed by the Land Use Bylaw (Planning Department);
- One officer is on modified duties and may be back mid-April;
- Five officers have gone through Bike Patrol training. Bike Patrols will start as soon as the weather is nice.
AME Animal Welfare Grant Report

L. Mackenzie presented a report on the creation of an Animal Welfare Grant for Airdrie. Administration is recommending that a comprehensive needs assessment be done to explore options and are working on an RFP with timing for the needs assessment to be completed by late 2019.

C. Gourlie moved that the Municipal Police Advisory Board recommends delay of the creation of an Animal Welfare Grant until the comprehensive needs assessment is complete. CARRIED

RCMP 2018-2019 Initiatives


Deputy Mayor Chapman raised concern over lack of follow-up when mental health patients are admitted to the hospital. Insp Pasloske and Deputy Mayor Chapman will meet with the Mental Health Addictions Liaison Team. Insp Pasloske confirmed that the MHALT team does deploy in crisis when required, but their main focus is to support individuals prior to and after crisis.

RCMP Municipal/Rural Workload Distribution

Insp Pasloske presented statistics and a summary of the January 2019 audit of positions, duties and files. Insp Pasloske recommended that the audit be repeated every year. Deputy Mayor Chapman advised that at the AUMA Spring Municipal Leaders Conference, equitable infrastructure funding was a concern all across the province.

Community Liaison Unit

Cpl Slaney discussed the positive initiatives being undertaken by the Community Liaison Unit. A comment was made that the partnership between the RCMP and the community is at a whole new level. Cpl Slaney discussed the work being done by the School Resource Officers. The Board commended the School Resource Officers on a great job. Cpl Slaney noted that Traffic Safety Officers are also doing presentations to students. G. Patterson asked whether there has been any discussion with the School Boards about lock-down drills. Cpl Slaney advised that lock-down plans are School Board policy. Councillor Kolson suggested that G. Patterson talk to the School Board trustees.

Update on Spousal Abuse

Insp Pasloske advised that despite it being reported that Airdrie has the highest domestic violence rate in the Province, the rate decreased by 17.3% from 2017 to 2018 and the number of files decreased from 819 to 679. The rate is actually medium to low, with similar or lower numbers than other municipalities over 60,000. Insp Pasloske has asked K Division to assist with messaging to correct the miscommunication.
ROUND TABLE

G. Patterson – The Crime Reduction Unit is doing an awesome job at pushing organized crime back, but he would like to see that enhanced. We need to create an invisible wall against organized crime in Airdrie.

C. Gourlie – Thank you to Cpl Slaney for your presentation and the great job your team is doing. Is the detachment going to do another distracted driving blitz? Insp Pasloske advised that the blitz was ITU not RCMP, and that the Airdrie detachment is doing a blitz every day.

Councillor Belyk – When officers pull a car over, do they ask to look through the vehicle? Insp Pasloske advised that they would be hesitant to do so as they may be entering into an unlawful search. However, if they see things in the vehicle indicating criminal behavior, they would make an arrest and then search the vehicle.

Councillor Belyk – Can we have a Polar Bear Plunge on January 1st? Chief Weinberger advised that it would not be safe.

Deputy Mayor Chapman – Radios? Insp Pasloske advised that as of the end of April, all officers will be trained and engaged. Every member now has an MAS device.

Councillor Kolson – A notice of motion is coming to Council about stop light cameras. Chief Weinberger advised that he has provided information to the City Manager. Staffing? Insp Pasloske advised that as of April 1st, we will have a full complement of 68 officers. Mandatory Alcohol Screening? Insp Pasloske advised that the initiative has been fairly well received by the public. Insp Pasloske will ask Tracey to come to the next meeting to discuss the program.

C. Gourlie – It was previously moved that this Board receive iPads to view agendas and receive notifications. Councillor Kolson and L. Mackenzie will push for iPads and eScribe for all members.

ACTION PLAN

• Councillor Kolson to try to facilitate meeting with L. Mackenzie and resident regarding dog bite concerns
• L. Mackenzie to work on RFP for needs assessment for Animal Welfare Grant
• Insp Pasloske and Deputy Mayor Chapman to meet with MHALT
• Councillor Kolson and L. Mackenzie to push for iPads and eScribe
• Insp Pasloske to ask Tracey to come to next meeting to discuss mandatory alcohol screening program

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.
NEXT MEETING

A special meeting of the Municipal Policing Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. to review and discuss resourcing and staffing requests for next year.

Chair

Recording Secretary