

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TABER MUNICIPAL POLICE COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF TABER, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023, AT 4:30 PM.

Chairperson

John MacDonald

Members

Wendi Chisholm

James Clements

Carly Firth

Daniel Remfert

Joanne Sorensen

Ferris Zaugg

Staff

Graham Abela

Secretary

Tenille Miller

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, J. MacDonald welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Chief, G. Abela noted that within the agenda reference is made to the 2021 Crime Analysis Report and it should read 2022 Crime Analysis Report.

RES. 33/2023 MOVED by D. Remfert that the Taber Municipal Police Commission adopts the agenda as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

38/2023

Meeting Date
5/17/2023

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Taber Municipal Police
Commission: April 19, 2023**

RES. 34/2024 MOVED by D. Remfert that the Taber Municipal
Police Commission adopts the minutes of the
Regular Meeting held on April 19, 2023, as
presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.

ACTION ITEMS

Chief of Police Report to the Commission

Chief G. Abela shared details from his report and provided more information regarding amendments to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and the Prosecutors Handbook.

He was notified that recent charges for possession had been withdrawn which lead to some inquiries. In recent meetings with the Federal Prosecutor it was made clear that there will be no charges laid for possession of drugs (except in cases with extenuating circumstances) and that a shift is being made to view these offences as social and health issue rather than criminal. There have also been recent meetings with the Alberta Chief's of Police to further discuss these changes. Chief, G. Abela expressed his concerns and noted with these changes to the prosecution of drug possession may no longer be achievable in the community.

Councillor J. Sorensen entered the meeting at 4:47 pm

Chair J. MacDonald suggested that Commission review all of the related materials regarding these changes and they continue to have discussion on how to move forward on this issue.

RES. 35/2023 MOVED by D. Remfert that the Taber Municipal Police Commission table the discussion regarding the prosecution of controlled drug substances to the next meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At this time Chair, J. MacDonald introduced Joe Stojwas to the Commission as our new Provincial Appointee to Commission. He discussed the recent provincial appointments to commissions and the process. He noted that we will be working to make changes to our existing bylaws and policy manual so that we may accept the new member to our Commission. J. MacDonald has invited J. Stojwas to participate in the meetings until he is officially sworn in.

ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D

Crime Analysis 2022

Chief G. Abela provided an overview of the data presented in the Crime Analysis 2022.

Following the report, Councillor, J. Sorensen asked if there might be ways to work with businesses and assist them in securing their buildings and property. It was suggested that this might be something that could be developed by Victim Services, Chamber, or Citizens on Patrol.

RES. 36/2023 MOVED by W. Chisholm that we accept the crime analysis report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Taber Municipal Police Commission Financial Information

Chief, G. Abela reviewed the following financial statements with Commission members for information:

- Operating Variance – March 31, 2023 – Final
- Operating Variance – April 30, 2023 – Interim

Commission made no motion at this time.

Public Complaints Director Report

The report from the Public Complaints Director was reviewed for information. The Public Complaints Director indicated that there are current no complaints or issues being dealt with.

Commission made no motion at this time.

ACTION ITEMS – CONT'D

Commission Member Reports (Verbal)

Chair, J. MacDonald reported that recently he and the Chief met with the Board at the Taber Child Care Centre regarding the development of lockdown policies and procedures following a recent incident in town. He also thanked Chief, G. Abela for all of his hard work to assist this board.

Commission made no motion at this time.

Commission Action Plan Listing

Chair, J. MacDonald reviewed items from the Commission Action Plan for information.

Commission made no motion at this time.

DELEGATIONS

None.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

None.

RES. 37/2023 MOVED by W. Chisholm that the Taber Municipal Police Commission moves into Closed Session to prevent the disclosure of:

- Position, plans, procedures, criteria or instructions developed for the purpose of contractual or other negotiations by or on behalf of the Government of Alberta or public body, or considerations that relate to those negotiations in accordance with Section 24(1) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 5:47 PM

42/2023

Meeting Date
5/17/2023

RES. 38/2023 MOVED by D. Remfert that the new provincial appointee J. Strojwas be invited to sit in the Closed Session portion of the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSED SESSION

8.1 Siaya Taber Police Service Exchange

Closed Session to prevent disclosure of positions, plans, procedures, criteria or instructions developed for the purpose of contractual or other negotiations by or on behalf of the Government of Alberta or a public body, or considerations that relate to those negotiations in accordance with Section 24(1) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the *Municipal Government Act*, the following members of Administration were in attendance for Closed Session Agenda Item 8.1) Siaya Taber Police Service Exchange: Chief G. Abela, Chief of Police, J. Strojwas, and Tenille Miller, Secretary to the Taber Municipal Police Commission.

Councillor, C. Firth left the meeting at 6:10 pm

OPEN SESSION

RES. 39/2023 MOVED by Councillor, J. Sorensen that the Taber Municipal Police Commission reconvenes into Open Session.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 6:28 PM.

RES. 40/2023 MOVED by B. Clements that the Taber Municipal Police Commission approves the Siaya Security Force and Taber Police Service Officer Exchange Program and approves up to \$5000 in funding from the 2023 Taber Police Service operating budget for program costs and administration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RES. 41/2023 MOVED by Barry Clements that the Taber Municipal Police Commission approve the expense for the VISA application for the trip to Kenya.

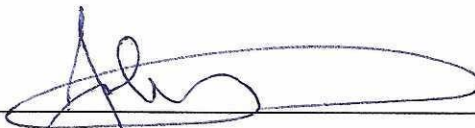
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CLOSE OF MEETING

As there were no further items for review the meeting was closed.

RES. 42/2023 MOVED by W. Chisholm that the Regular Meeting of the Taber Municipal Police Commission is hereby closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 6:30 P.M



CHAIR



SECRETARY

44/2023

Meeting Date
5/17/2023