



Altona Police Board

"The mission of the Altona Police Board is to provide civilian oversight and governance of the Altona Police Service in order to ensure a safe community."

Minutes of the Altona Police Board public meeting held in the Town of Altona council chambers on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Present were: Chair Audrey Schmidt via zoom, Vice Chair Katie Eyre-Saunders, Archie Heinrichs, Tammy Braun, Gord Sawatzky, Police Chief Dan Defer, S/Cst Julie Seniuk

1. **Call to order** at 1:00 and approval of agenda

Motion: Archie Heinrichs- moved- Gord Sawatzky- seconded- that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

2. **Approval** of the minutes of April 6, 2023

MOTION to approve the April 6, 2023 meeting minutes as circulated:

Gord Sawatzky- moved- Tammy Braun- second

CARRIED.

3. **Chairs Report**

- 3.1 Manitoba government increases funding for municipalities for public safety across the province

- After discussion with Dan Gagne \$141,000 additional funds have been received by the Town of Altona from the Province of Manitoba. The funds go into the Town of Altona operating budget and the Police Service will need to justify to council what we would need the money for, and council needs to approve the funds be released for public safety. Possibilities include: Live scan upgrade, Windows/computer upgrade/replacement for all office computers, RSTT new member training, uniform and equipment and the remaining money to be placed in capital expenses account for APS use in the future. Further discussion as to what this funding could be used for will be discussed at another meeting with the Police Chief and Police Board on September 28th, 2023. No motion put forward at this time.

3.2 Altona Police Board Policies & Procedures

- No questions or concerns on policies & procedures.

3.3 Independent Investigations Unit

- A new civilian director has been appointed. Her name is Roxanne Gagné.

3.4 New office in Plum Coulee

- Located at 215 Railway. The possibility of hosting an open house along with Plum Coulee Public Works and Fire Department is being discussed for the future.

3.5 Community Events

- There has been positive feedback from the community regarding the Altona Police Service and our community outreach and also with our social media exposure. The board chair would like to commend the members for their hard work in making these events a success.

3.6 Current and upcoming policing campaigns

- Road Safety back to school campaign finishes this week. There will be random road watch shifts until the end of October and then the Road Watch campaign funding from MPI will be complete for this year.

3.7 Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund

- The Police E-bike has been received and has been used while on patrol in the community during events and normal patrol.

3.8, 3.9 & 3.11 have been referred to the next Police Board meeting in December due to time restriction.

3.10 World Police & Fire games

- Thank you to the member of the Altona Police Service for their participation and presence at the games.

4. Police Chief report

4.1 Monthly reports

- Review of monthly reports shows that we consistently open 200 files per month and process approximately 38 criminal record checks per month.

Forrest Green

- Policy review meeting is schedule for September 22nd and the program should be up and running by 2024.

Frauds

- There is still a steady intake of fraud complaints. At this point we aren't really sure what more we can do to educate the public. There's still a variety of frauds occurring including online purchases, real estate frauds and sweetheart frauds.

Summer Festivals

- Both the Sunflower festival and the Plum Fest were successful and no major incidents occurred. Good community engagement in both communities.

4.2 Strategic Plan Review- targets

- Diverse compositions- evening coffee events have been held. In Altona we gathered with the Filipino community at Potpourri of Flavors and with

new citizens of Altona through Regional Connections at The Community Exchange.

- Provincial Training Strategies- Dan has now been made co-chair of this committee and they will be holding a public hearing/community consultation meeting in either Winkler or Morden on October 30th, 2023
- The license plate reader installation on 404 (black truck) has been delayed until October.

4.3 Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund update

- There will be a staff meeting on October 3rd for all member of APS in which members will be asked to submit their proposals/business cases for CPFF donations in 2024.

4.4 Budget update

- Looking at a possible increase in the training budget, due to increased costs of courses, accommodations and meals. The cost right now for 1 week of training is approximately \$700.00

5. New Business

- No word on who will be appointed as a provincial appointee to the Police Board.

Adjournment at 2:25pm

MOTION: Archie Heinrichs - moved – Katie Eyre-Saunders – second- that the meeting be adjourned. Next meeting is December 7, 2023.