

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020– 8:45 am
DOGWOOD MEETING ROOM – CHILLIWACK CITY HALL

In attendance:

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| Councillor Jason Lum, Co-Chair | Jennifer Kooistra, Director of Corporate Services |
| Superintendent Bryon Massie, OIC, RCMP | Inspector Davy Lee, RCMP |
| Nicole Webb, Chamber of Commerce | Corporal Brad Rendall, Community Policing |
| Mike Bourdon, Assistant Fire Chief | Kyle Williams, BIA |
| Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice | Mike Weightman, ICBC |
| Garrett Schipper, Manager of Building & Regulatory Enforcement | Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary |

Regrets:

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| Councillor Bud Mercer, Co-Chair | Amanda Macpherson, Restorative Justice |
| Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities | Peter Lang, Community Member |
| Mike Sikora, Social Development Coordinator | Brian Foote, Community Member |
| Chris Terepocki, Legal Representative | Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice |
| Ian Josephson, Fire Chief | Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations |

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Lum called the meeting to order at 8:45 am.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee
Seconded (held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4. DELEGATION

Superintendent Massie introduced the RCMP's newest member, Constable Myrnaiza (Manny) Borlongan. The new constable provided a brief history regarding his background and left the meeting at 8:47 am.

5. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

a) RCMP

Superintendent Massie reported on the following:

1. Crimes against persons were down by 6% for the month of February 2020.
2. Property crime was down by 42%, attributable to target teams such as Valley Sweep and general duty members working proactively in the community.
3. Hospital wait times for February 2020 averaged 72 minutes which is down compared to June 2019. Superintendent Massie credited Inspector Lee and Chilliwack General Hospital staff for their hard work. The top hospital wait time of 360 minutes (six hours) is currently under review.
4. Calls-for-service for February 2020 were down by 15% comparatively to the year-to-date.
5. Calls-for-service, in comparison to January 2020, are slightly higher; however, still trending down.

Chair Lum provided positive comment regarding the downward trending property crime statistics; Superintendent Massie noted the statistics are reflective of the diligent work of the target teams and Valley Sweep. The Valley Sweep target team is a coordinated approach by Chilliwack RCMP and Abbotsford Police Department officers monitoring repeat property crime offenders.

Discussion ensued regarding security in hospitals after a recent incident where an individual was apprehended by RCMP, and subsequently taken to the hospital for medical treatment.

Superintendent Massie left the meeting at 8:59 am.

Inspector Lee reported on the peaceful gathering in support of Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs held on Friday, February 14, 2020 in Chilliwack. The Indigenous Police Section were in attendance to coordinate and collaborate with event organizers to ensure an uneventful event. The RCMP expressed thanks to the Fire Department, Engineering Department and the BC Ambulance Service for their assistance.

Chair Lum noted positive feedback regarding the protest was received from both protest supporters and non-supporters.

Corporal Rendall reported that on Friday, March 6, 2020, two individuals from a homeless camp at Gill Road were relocated from the property to alternate accommodation. Two other individuals remain in the camp; the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource are responsible for monitoring the situation.

Discussion ensued regarding security at the location; staff noted Griffin Security will manage the newly installed security gate.

9. REPORTS (continued)

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Bourdon reported on the following:

b) Fire Department

1. On March 1, 2020, the Fire Department responded to a structure fire on the roof of a portable classroom at Watson Elementary. Two small fires were extinguished which caused minor damage to the roof of the portable.
2. On March 6, 2020, the Fire Department responded to an apartment complex fire in the 9400 block of Cook Street. One person was safely removed through the balcony, treated for smoke inhalation and released from hospital. Approximately 30 units were impacted; the fire is considered accidental at this time. The Emergency Support Service (ESS) team provided assistance with finding accommodation for displaced residents.
3. On March 11, 2020, the Paid-On-Call (POC) recruit graduation took place for 16 new recruits.

Discussion ensued regarding the Emergency Support Service (ESS) and the appropriate exchange of information between the Fire Department and RCMP.

c) BIA

1. Graffiti in the downtown core has increased as weather is starting to warm up.
2. B&E's and vandalism have decreased; however, Magnolia Clothing Boutique located on Yale Road was broken into yesterday.

A query was raised as to whether there has been any activity in the vicinity of the Portal Shelter; the BIA noted there have been very few reports of any issues.

d) Bylaw Department

1. The Bylaw Department has recently posted two Bylaw Enforcement Officer (BEO) positions who, in addition to two recently hired BEO's, will work shift work in the evenings and on weekends. This will allow for coverage seven days a week in order to meet the needs of the community. Bike training will be provided for the new staff members once hired.
2. Staff from the Bylaw and Operations Departments met with RCMP and Griffin Security on March 5, 2020 to discuss downtown visibility patrols in preparation for spring and summer. The patrols have made a significant impact in the downtown core the past few years; however, there has been a shift in activity towards the Sardis and Vedder Crossing areas. Staff are working to resolve these issues. The Bylaw Department has had challenges with issues along the CN Railway, as it is under CN Rail jurisdiction. Staff have reached out to CN Rail for a response.
3. Staff continue to closely monitor a homeless camp located at Island 22. There was a recent recreational vehicle fire on the property and the Bylaw Department is working with the property owner regarding this issue.
4. Staff cleaned up a mess left behind from homeless individuals last week located behind Johnston Packers on Promontory Road.

It was noted that there has been recent nuisance activity on two vacant properties located on Lark Road adjacent to the Sardis Bottle Depot; fencing is now in place and the properties are secure. Staff are monitoring this area for any loitering or illegal activities.

9. REPORTS (continued)

Concern was expressed regarding a small number of individuals selling bicycles in a wooded area along Thomas Road; staff noted the property in question is on First Nation land; however, staff are working with First Nations to assist in cleaning up the area. A query was raised regarding a dog that has been seen with the individuals, as there is concern that the dog may pose safety concerns. Staff will investigate this concern.

e) ICBC

1. March is Distracted Driving Awareness month; ICBC is supporting police services all over BC. Chilliwack RCMP Traffic Section conducted a traffic enforcement operation on March 5, 2020 at the intersection of Vedder Road and Promontory Road.
2. Seatbelt enforcement will run secondary to the Distracted Driving campaign.

Corporal Rendall noted a Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) Inspection took place on March 10, 2020 in Chilliwack with a specific focus on lifted pick-up trucks.

f) School District

Mark Klassen, Manager of Facilities, SD 33 was not in attendance; however, provided comment via email that the Fire Department will provide details regarding a fire on the roof of a portable classroom at Watson Elementary.

g) Operations

Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations was not in attendance, but provided the following update:

1. Ongoing dyke brushing and inspections are underway in preparation for the freshet.
2. The bulk of winter sand clean-up is complete and street sweepers have returned to their regular maintenance routes for streets and bike lanes.

h) Social Development

No report

i) Restorative Justice

No report

j) Stólō Justice

No report

k) Chamber of Commerce

No report

Co-Chair Lum spoke regarding the current COVID-19 situation and advised the City of Chilliwack will be closely adhering to Provincial guidelines in the coming weeks.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

Moved /) That, in accordance with Section 90 (1)(f) of the *Community Charter*, the Committee
Seconded (hold a Closed meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Lum, Co-Chair