

**GRANDE PRAIRIE POLICE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

October 12, 2023

Al Robertson Room, Centre 2000

Attendees: Commissioner Dan Wong
Commissioner Natalia Reiman
Commissioner Timothy Burnham
Commissioner Donna Koch
Commissioner Lois Duke
Councillor Kevin O'Toole
Councillor Dylan Bressey (virtual)

Others: Dwayne Lakusta, Chief of Police
Lorrie Sitler, Executive Director
Chris Manuel, City of Grande Prairie
Jacqueline Daigneault (Admin), City of Grande Prairie

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wong called the meeting to order at 2:46 pm

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We respectfully acknowledge the Beaver, Cree, Dene, and Métis people as the original caretakers of these Lands and surrounding areas. We are grateful to live, learn, work and play on Treaty 8 territory within Turtle Island and acknowledge these Lands have been home to diverse and sovereign First Nations and Inuit People since Time Immemorial.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved by: Commissioner Duke
Carried unanimously**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 10, 2023, as presented.

**Moved by: Councillor O'Toole
Carried unanimously**

5. INQUIRIES BY THE PUBLIC

Nothing to report.

Chair



ED



6. BUSINESS ARISING

Nothing to report.

7. STANDING ITEMS

7.1 Chair Report

- Intermunicipal Meeting
 - Attended by The City, County, MD, Wembley, Beaverlodge & Sexsmith. Chief Lakusta provided a well-received update. We are currently on track with budget,.
- 2023 State of the Region
 - Mayor Clayton provided some information on the transition plan

7.2 Chief Report

- One Superintendent accepted for Oct. 23rd, 2023. Previous director of CISA, and ALERT ICE. 8 Years in GP. Offer out for second Superintendent. Staff Sargent offer verbally accepted. Identified 2 individuals for training positions, the first will be offered training sergeant, second will be constable. Recruit sergeant posting will be firmed up next week.
- 3 interviews completed for PIO – 1 identified.
- 7 positions have been hired and filled.
- The IT Manager will develop our own domain. Will second a member from another Service to assist and build infrastructure.
- Met with fire chief and deputy regarding the dispatch system. 911 will take calls for Police, Fire & Ambulance.
- Met with employees (MOP, RCMP Municipal Staff, Enforcement) regarding Change Management. Introductions and discussion regarding vision, etc. were well received.
- Finishing up branding and in final design phase. Digitized copies next week and will present 2 options to move forward and start branding.
- Chair Wong asked about concern from County regarding building new RCMP detachment timelines in Clairmont. May have some cross over.
- Met with Management team of the Governance Committee. Public Safety Canada has given full support for cohesive, collaborative effort. Establishing HR Plan with Superintendent Brachmann. Parties will develop a letter of understanding.
- Vice Chair Reiman asked about pressure and negativity as a risk with human capital. Is there still a negative vibe? Chief responded: not many and while this isn't completely eradicated, positivity is increasing. With time spent and conversations had, opinions are changing. Lots of false information out there and misinterpretation. Marketing will tell the story and break rumors.
- Commissioner Burnham requested a Commission cheat sheet. Org chart with pictures and individuals' history.
- Vice Chair Reiman asked how the Commission could support breaking the rumours and getting the truth out there. Chief Lakusta responded: Tell the story, it's a team effort. Provide feedback, etc. squash rumors and fear.

Chair ED

- Vice Chair Reiman asked Chair Wong if there should be a Special Meeting to facilitate the branding process.

Chair Wong directed the Executive Director to work with the Chief on timing and make arrangements for a Special Meeting.

7.3 Public Complaint Director Report
Nothing to report

7.4 Executive Director Report

- Online provincial learning modules for the Commission are due by the end of October, except Commissioner Duke has until the end of December.
- November 7 there will be a similar swearing in for superintendent and staff sergeant. Not required to attend but Executive Director will send out invite. Commissioner Burnham will be swearing them in.
- Stakeholder engagement session – invitations have been sent out. Sessions include Council & CLT, Youth (cancelled due to low registration, offered a different session), City staff, Business group, Indigenous group, Community group, Schools divisions and schools, Social service organizations, and a public session. Sent list of public attendees to Janet at city to ensure prepared if groups with issues are there. 153 people signed up to take part. Online survey has 11 respondents but is open until the end of October. Agenda for sessions include timeframe and begins with registration, welcome from commission, welcome from chief. These sessions focus on forward thinking, what we want the future to look like. Current concerns can be brought to RCMP Townhalls, there will be detailed posters for these. Executive Director Chief's Senior Executive Advisor will be facilitating. Executive Director will wrap up and inform attendees of follow up. Closing remarks from Commission and Chief.

7.5 Committee Updates

- a) Finance Committee – Chair, Commissioner Burnham
 - September 7, 2023, meeting minutes

Motion to receive the minutes of the September 7, 2023, Finance Committee meeting as presented.

Moved by: Councillor Bressey

Carried Unanimously

- Bylaw – proposed amendment. No additional work. Lorrie and chief will meet and bring to November meeting. Referred to administration.
- b) Policy & Governance Committee – Chair, Commissioner Koch
 - Next meeting in November.
- c) Personnel Committee – Chair, Commissioner Reiman
 - October 4, 2023, meeting minutes

Chair

ED

Motion to receive the minutes of the October 4, 2023, Personnel Committee meeting as amended.

Moved by: Commissioner Reiman

Carried Unanimously

- Draft Executive Director Probationary Review Process

Motion to approve the Executive Director Probationary Review Process as presented.

Moved by: Vice Chair Reiman

Carried Unanimously

- Discussion around the Executive Director's Secondment. Vice Chair Reiman will clarify with City's Human Resources.

Councillor O'Toole left the meeting at 3:53 PM.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Indigenous Relations Awareness – Warren Nekurak, City of Grande Prairie Indigenous Relations Advisor

- Warren Nekurak provided a presentation on Indigenous Relations in Policing.
- He presented key historical information on Indigenous relationships with the RCMP and how that may impact members of the Grande Prairie Police Service encounters with the Indigenous Community
- Offered several ways the Commission and GPPS can build positive relationships with Indigenous in Grande Prairie and the surrounding areas.

Donna Koch left the meeting at 4:37 pm

8.2 AAPG Correspondence

- a) Letter from Minister Ellis – September 8, 2023
- b) ADM, Public Security Division phone call – September 19, 2023
- c) Funding Increase Request – September 25, 2023
- d) ALERT CAC Nominations – October 4, 2023

Commissioner Duke asked for the information to be emailed to allow Commission members time to decide on their interest before the next meeting.

Motion to receive AAPG correspondence from September 8, September 19, September 25, and October 4, 2023.

Moved by: Vice Chair Reiman

Unanimously Carried

8.3 Meeting dates

- Proposed 3rd Thursdays at 2:30 pm beginning in December



Motion to move meetings to the 3rd Thursdays of the month starting at 2:30 pm, effective December 1, 2023, and remove the August meeting from the annual meeting schedules.

Moved by: Vice Chair Reiman
Carried Unanimously

9. INQUIRIES BY THE POLICE COMMISSION

10. ROUND TABLE

- Commissioner Duke attended the Safety in our Cities Conference in Edmonton alongside Chief Lakusta. 624 attendees wanting to find better ways to create safety. Met several police chiefs from North America. Encourage other Commission members to attend this type of conference, great opportunities for the future.

11. CLOSED SESSION

- 11.1 Personnel – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)
- 11.2 Law Enforcement Matters – FOIP – Sec. 20(1)
- 11.3 Public Complaint Director – FOIP – Sec. 24(1)
- 11.4 Professional Standards – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)

Motion to move into Closed Session in accordance with Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act and specified sections of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Moved by: Vice Chair
Carried Unanimously

Motion to return to open session.

Moved by: Commissioner Duke
Carried Unanimously

12. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

- 12.1 Executive Director Probationary Review

Motion to approve the Executive Director’s successful completion of her probationary period and communicate same to the City.

Moved by: Vice Chair Reiman
Carried Unanimously

13. NEXT MEETING – November 9, 2023, at 2:30 pm in Al Robertson Room, Centre 2000

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Wong adjourned the meeting at 5:37 pm.

Date

Chairman

Date

Executive Director

Chair ED